

WITH 40 PAGES OF OFFICE, LEGAL AND BANKING APPOINTMENTS



WOMEN WHO MARRY BOSSES



What happened when the flag came down



Bright flight: Five of the World Images commissioned by British Airways as part of its new £60m corporate identity adom the tail-fins of Boeing 747-400s. The images are from the Kalahari, the US, Scotland, Poland and Japan Report, page 3 Photograph: PA

Hague is set to snatch the Tory crown

Anthony Bevins Political Editor

William Hague looked set to snatch the Conservative leadership crown last light, after Kenneth Clarke fell short of a 50-vote target set by close supporters for the first-round ballot.

The 36-year-old former secretary of state for Wales could now attract votes from left and right, as the only candi-date with the bandwagon potential to

unite the party.

In yesterday's leadership bout, John
Redwood - another former secretary of state for Wales - stunned colleagues by getting more votes than either of the other right-wing candidates, Peter Lilley and Michael Howard.

Barring surprises, it now looks as though Mr Clarke, Mr Hague and Mr Redwood will go through to next Tuesday's second-round hallot of the party's 164 MPs. Within minutes of the result being announced in a Commons cortidor, Mr Redwood paged his campaign team with the message: "We're going all

the way. JR."

Mr Clarke came top of the first-round ballot, with 49 votes, but he was only a handful of votes ahead of Mr Hague, on 41. Mr Redwood came third, with 27, followed by Mr Lilley on 24, and Mr Howard on 23.

The combined total of 74 votes for the three right-wingers is not enough to sequires at least \$3 votes next Tuesday.

In an appeal for Mr Howard and Mr Lilley to stand down, and unite behind him for the next round, Mr Redwood told BBC Radio 4's PM programme: "Both Michael and Peter or their camps indicated that they thought the fourth and fifth-placed candidate should drop out and support the third-placed can-

But it is entirely possible that MPs to expect wheo this campaign started.



Kenneth Clarke: Disappointment

from the Lilley and Howard camps will now begin to peel off in search of a winner - Mr Hague.

There were Tory fears last night that some right-wing MPs could make a tac-tical switch to Mr Clarke, in the hope of keeping division, and the leadership question, alive. Other MPs believe that if Mr Clarke is not elected, there is no place for them in the party, and they could resign the party whip.

Last night, however, there was every-thing for Mr Hague, Mr Clarke and Mr Redwood to fight for.

Mr Hague said he had been pleased by his vote. "It gives me a very good pocure victory for Mr Redwood, who relot oo a platform to unite the party and give the party a fresh start," he said.

Having topped an opinion poll, and a ballot of constituency party officers an-nounced in advance of yesterday's vote. Mr Clarke said: "I have today topped the poll in every test of Conservative opinion. I am very encouraged by the hreadth of the support I have attracted, which is much stronger than I dared

The Conservative Party should now unite tu-fight Labour, 1 intend to seek to hroaden my appeal further by setting out how I intend to lead this party on an inclusive basis. The leadership of the par-ty must attract and draw on the talents of every strand of opinion within the

Conservative tradition."

Mr Redwood said: "I am very pleased and I would like to thank all those who supported me even when the press wrote me off and down and out. Now we are going to have a bandwagon. Now we are going to win." He added that he would be "very generous" to Mr Lilley and Mr Howard, "I want them to be on side. I want as many supporters as possible."

The former deputy chairman of the party. Lord Archer, who had been backing Mr Lilley, said: "I believe that both Peter Lilley and Michael Howard will make their own decisions as to what they will do but neither of them can win."

That view had earlier been underthat view had earner been under-scored by the result of an advisory bal-lot of constituency party officers, which gave Mr Clarke 322 votes, Mr Hague 188, Mr Redwood 25, Mr Lilley 22, and Mr Howard just 10. But it was notice-able that while Mr Clarke woo a majority of the constituency votes cast, Mr Hague still got about a third.

Remarkably, only 61 per cent of Tory peers bothered to vote at all, but Mr Clarke got 177 of their votes to 45 for Mr Hague, 37 for Mr Lilley, 13 for Mr Redwood, and 10 for Mr Howard. All 17 Members of the Europeao Parliament backed the former chancellor.

The Commons was last night rife with rumours of backstairs deals and offers. Mr Redwood said of Mr Howard and Mr Lilley: "If Michael and Peter would like jobs in the shadow cabinet that I wish to form, yes, of course they can have jobs."

Further report, page 10 Leading article, page 19

Inquiry launched into public health

EXCLUSIVE

by Jeremy Laurance, Health Editor

An ioquiry into why poor people die sooner than the rich is to be launched by the Government as part of a drive to highlight the impact of social issues on health. Ministers have been shocked by

evidence showing that although the overall health of the nation is improving, the gap in death rates between rich and poor has widened. They have asked Sir Donald Acheson, former government chief medical officer, to produce ao updated version of the Black report, setting out the scientific case on which policies to tackle health inequalities might be based.

The original Black report, commissioned by the last Labour government from consultant physician Sir Douglas Black and published in 1980, controversially linked deprivation with ill health and made a series of costly recommendations for alleviating poverty, improving housing and targeting NHS resources at the most needy.

itty simple

In spite of efforts by the Conservative government to hury it, it has continued to provoke fierce debate since

it was published. On Monday Sir Donald met Frank Dobson, the health secretary, Tessa Jowell, the minister for public health, and Sir Kenneth Calman, chief medical officer, to discuss terms of the review, expected by Christmas. Final details are still to be worked out and an announcement is not expected

until next month. Revival of the Black report is an ambitious venture fraught with political

risk. Tackliog health inequalities will require the co-operation of all gov-

ernment departments and could incur high costs. Ministers are anxious to limit the review to proposals that have a realistic chance of being implemented. The original Black report's recommendations were costed at £2bn at 1979 prices, equivalent to

£5.4bo today.

Ministers have accepted that there is limited scope for change in the NHS and that abolishing the internal market will take years rather than mooths. The arena of public health is seen as the most fertile ground for innovation of the kind that the public has come to expect of the new Government.

Tessa Jowell said yesterday: "Tack-ling inequalities is what the health department should be about. We have asked Sir Donald to give us a very clear steer on the basis of the scientific evidence about where we can take effective action to improve people's health. We will then decide what measures to take."

She said the initiative was "not about empty rhetoric or developing wish lists" and would form a central part of the Government's strategy on public health which will be formally launched at a health department conference on 7 July. "We are not going to raise expectations that we cannot fulfil. We would rather under-promise

than over-deliver." The reason public health had been marginalised in the past was because the agenda seemed so vast and the

inequalities so pervasive that the prospect of doing anything over-whelmed the government. "We want to identify key measures across government departments that we can act

on," she said. The original Black report high-lighted the fact that the death rate in infancy was twice as high amoog social class V as social class I and that similar differences persisted through life. In 1994, research published in the British Medical Journal showed that death rates in the poorest parts of northern England were rising for men aged 15 to 44 for the first time since

Experts welcomed the review of the Black report but warned that action to remedy the problem was needed, not a new diagnosis of the causes.

Ken Judge, director of the Kings Fund Health Policy Institute, said: "What we don't want is another description of the problem. We need a careful analysis of the causes and an evaluation of policy options. My worry is that Sir Donald may pay more nttention to the causes than the options."

Julian Le Grand, professor of health policy at the London School of Economics, said: "The real question is how much muscle the initiative will have behind it. Without a budget, it looks as if Tessa Jowell as the new minister of public health will have to rely on persuasion.

"However, after 18 years in which the focus has been on organisational issues in the NHS, the switch to a focus on health rather than health care would be welcome." What the doctor ordered, page 20

Yachtsmen spot pirate whaling

Environment Correspondent

Yachtsmen crossing the Atlantic have found evidence which suggests a pirate whaling operation is underway, in de-fiance of the 10-year-old international moratorium on slaughtering the marine mammals.

There have been reports of whale carcasses attached to huoys and of others floating with what appear to be harpoons sticking out of them. Brad de Lange, Australian skipper of the yacht Globina, told The Inde-

pendent yesterday that he saw a pod of whales surrounding a yellow buoy oo 31 May - one day's sailing from San Miguel Island to the Azores. As his boat neared the group, all but

one submerged and swam away. The hreathing of the remaining whale was much quicker than the others, and it appeared to be attached to the huoy.



Initially baffled by what they had seen, the yacht's crew later concloded the whale had been left wounded and tethered to be picked up later. "What annoyed us is that it was such a horrible death for the thing," said Mr de Lange. "We hope whoever is behind it is found and stopped."

Herb Hilgenberg, a radio ham in Burlington, Ootario, heard from five vachts last mooth which reported floating whale carcasses in mid-Atlantic waters south west of the Azores. The first of these reports, on 12 May, said the whale was attached to a lit buoy.

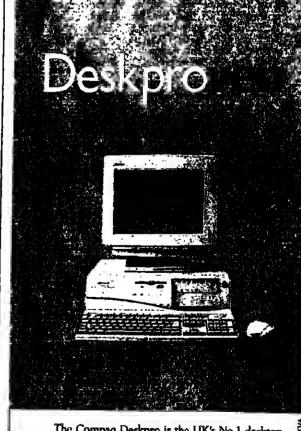
Mr Hilgenberg, who gives transat-laotic yachtsmeo safety advice on winds and weather forecasts, said the yachts were sufficiently far apart to be sure that they were reporting several

carcasses and not just one.

Jeff King, English skipper of the yacht Tuesday Girl said: "I've been hearing reports by radiu from other vachis of whales floating around dead with poles in them. We saw a decomposing carcass ourselves, covered in seabirds.

The reports were relayed to the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society, a small campaigning group based in Bath, by Bill Herbert, who runs a boat from the Azores which takes tourists to watch live whales and dolphins. The society believes the explanation for the sightings is a large, well planned pirate-whaling operation - but it has no idea where it is operating

The International Whaling Commission has no policing and enforcement powers. The pirate whalers could only be legally tackled once they came into port, providing the country they landed at had the necessary legislation in place - and most don't,



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A 12-year-old girl who has been held on remand at a jail on the Isle of Man for the past seven days was released into the care of a children's home last night. Page 7

Girl of 12 released

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significant shorts

Prescott leads 'green' **Cabinet committee**

John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, will today chair his first meeting of a beefed-up "green" Cabinet committee with a broad remit to cover sustainable development, Tony Blair told leaders of

remit to cover sustainable development. Tony Blair told leaders of green pressure groups yesterday.

The Government will also go ahead with a manifesto commitment to set up a parliamentary environmental audit committee with MPs from all parties, able to question ministers and officials from all government departments about policy and performance.

In the meantime, Greenpeace, the environmental pressure group, announced il would seek a judicial review hearing against the Government if it did not halt a new round of oil exploration

the Government if it did not halt a new round of oil exploration and development in the North Sea and Atlantic. It believes that in allowing the oil companies to go ahead, the Government is in hreach of two European Union directives protecting the environment and wildlife hahitats.

Letters, page 19 Tory hospital schemes abandoned

Some of the Conservative government's privately financed hospital schemes are to be abandoned, it was announced yesterday.

Alan Milhurn, the health minister, has invited MPs to make the case for their local schemes so that he can target resources more effectively. He will announce his decision at the end of the month. Projects will be graded according to how much they are needed, their sponsorship chances, and how far they have already

McAliskey case adjourned

The extradition application by the German government against 25-year-old Roisin McAliskey was adjourned until 8 July by Bow Street stipendiary magistrate Lorraine Morgan yesterday, after Ms McAliskey's solicitor, Gareth Peirce, told the court her client was unable to attend through illness. Mrs Morgan extended Ms McAliskey's conditional hall until that date.

Ms Peirce told the court that the prognosis on Ms McAliskey was "completely unclear". Under the terms of her bail, Ms McAliskey, who gave hirth to a baby daughter a fortnight ago, has been allowed to stay in an unnamed mother and baby unit rather than be returned to Holloway prison. She is wanted for questioning in Germany about the IRA bombing of the Osnabrück military base in June last year.

Patricia Wynn Davies

Police appeal over travelling rapist



Police yesterday issued a nationwide appeal to trace a sadistic serial rapist known to have struck at least five times in 13 years. The travelling attacker (seen

left in a photofit picture) is wanted for four rapes and one sex assault which have taken place in West Yorkshire. Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire since 1982. In all five attacks lone women were abducted at knifepoint from a city-centre car park or street

parking, driven by the attacker in their own cars away from the city centre, raped or sexually abused and then taken back to the same inner city area and abandoned. West Yorkshire Assistant Chief Constable Lloyd Clarke, in charge of Operation Lynx – which featured on Crimewatch UK on BBCl last night – said detectives fear the man will strike again. "We are dealing with someone who is cool and sadistic," he said. The man is white and at least 35. He speaks with a Scottish accent, uses the words "lass" or "lassie" and re-emphasises his commands by saying: "Do you hear me?"

Burglary suspect 'dead on his feet'

A burglary suspect who hanged himself in a courthouse cell was "dead on his feet" when he was finally cut down by Securicor guards, an inquest was told yesterday.

An inquest at Hammersmith Coroners' Court, west London, has heard that the guards believed that Peter Austin, 30, was faking suicide because they ooticed that his feet were touching the ground. They allegedly watched him hanging from the light-fitting for 10 minutes without taking any action. But Doctor Iain West, head of Pathology at Guy's Hospital, London, said yesterday: "A substantial minority of people who hang themselves have their feet on the ground ... People have hanged themselves from door handles."

Mr Austin, of Hammersmith, was found dead in the cell below Brentford magistrates' court, west London, on 29 January after being charged with hurglary. He was the first persoo lo die in the custody of Securicor, the private security firm. The case continues. Kathy Marks

Jail cut for general's taxi assailant

Black nursery nurse Dehhie Blaize had a year's jail sentence for punching a retired major general in the face cut to six months at the Court of Appeal yesterday. Lord Bingham, the Lord Chief Justice, said he made the cut partly hecause of the trial judge's remark that sain the made the cut party necause of the trial judge's remark that she had "cynically and dishonestly decided to play the race card" in claiming that she had been racially abused by her victim, Major General Richard Gerrard-Wright. The general, 69, who lives near Grantham in Lincolnshire, had told Southwark Crown Court that a "screaming creature" knocked him to the ground after he accused her of queue-jumping at a taxi rank. Blaize, from Southwark, south London, claimed she was the victim of a harrage of racist abuse from the general who, she said, told her she should go back to the jungle, and she had simply pushed him after he grahbed her neck.

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WEATHER

people



FINAL CURTAIN: Pattl LuPone (above) has again experienced a shattering disappointment in the West End.

Master Class, in which she plays diva Maria Callas, is to close after only a month. The play was supposed
to be a triumphant return, four years after she played Norma Desmond in Sunset Boulevard, and was not
chosen by Andrew Lloyd Webber for the Broadway transfer.

(Photograph: Geraint Lawis)

Women taste victory in battle to earn the same as men

oyce Pickering was celebrating a landmark legal victory yesterday after she and her 27 fellow female council workers won a £400,000 settlement in an equal pay and sex discrimination case against Durham

Under the agreement the women, all care workers for and £15,000 in back-dated pay, compensation and rent allowances, and a 35 per cent increase in their wages, to bring them into line with male colleagues.

Ms Pickering, a warden at one of Durham's sheltered housing complexes, said: "We no longer feel undervalued and underpaid after going for years without heing properly recognised for what we do. Today has been a great

The fight, begun two years ago, Involved tha women's assertion that wages for men and women should be identical. They also demanded a review of working hours, which had seen many working round the clock. Previously, the women had operated undar a provin-

cial agreement which they and their union, the GMB, signed in 1988 but withdrew from when their action began. However yesterday's decision looks likely to throw the council's finances into chaos.

Brian Spears, Director of Housing and Health for Durham City Council, said: The council never said tha the alderly, will receive a lump sum of between £10,000 claim was totally unreasonable. The implication from the and £15,000 in back-dated pay, compensation and rent council point of view is how to pay for the settlement. All along we have been pointing out our inability to find this money."

But GMB national secretary, Mick Graham, called upon amployers to take heed of the result. "Inability to pay is no defence in law," he said. "All similar cases we have run show very clearly that women have been discrimi-nated against. Their work has been of equal value but they have been paid less."

Mr Graham explained that the cost of ensuring wage parity throughout tha UK job market had been estimated at £1,000m, but suggested that the trend towards equal pay for both sexes was unremitting. James Mellor

Tha novelist Graham Greene (right) lost huga sums of money in a money-laundaring racket run by the Hollywood maffa which led to him living in tax exile after an "agreement" with the Inland Revenue, according to a controversial new hiography. In The Quest for Graham

Greene burnt

his fingers in

US cash scam

Greena, author WJ West contrasts tha writer's anti-Amaricanism with his unwitting involvement - and that of others such as Charlie Chaplin - in the illegal scams.

"It must have been acutely embarrassing for Chaplin and Greena, with their political sympathies, to have been caught up in tha seediest backwaters of international capitalism," writes Mr West, who says the author thought ha was merely using tax avoidance

The book also reveals that

Athers
Auckland
Banglok
Barcelona
Beirut
Betgrade
Berlin
Bombay
Brussels
Bucharest
Cairo
Cape Town
Christchurch
Cologne
Copenhagen
Corfu
Florence
Frankfurt
Funchal

The British Isles

General Situation and Outlook:

England and Wales will start in a damp fashion with thundery rain in the north and east. The rain should clear away during the morning with many places brightening up for a time with some warm sunshine. However, heavy

showers will develop with localised heavy

thundery downpours by this afternoon. North-ern Ireland should slowly become drier after a wet start. Southern Scotland will have heavy

bursts of thundery rain this morning, and this not weather way reach northern Sectland by

the end of the day. Scotland and Northern Ireland will have

showery bursts of rain tomorrow, although eastern regions of Northern Ireland and southern counties of Scotland should see a little sunshine. England and Wales will be fairly

warm with some sunny spells and heavy show

ers. Friday will be another unsettled day with

there should be fewer showers and some better, more prolonged sunny periods, but it will

Ronaldsway Scarborough

Southampton Southend

Tiree York

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Good Good Good Good Good Good Good

sunshine and scattered sharp showers; the

showers heaviest in the north. On Saturday

4,44 4,40 4,27

Greene had been a member of a communist cell at Oxford, the first student group of its kind, and that tha security services ware unaware of this when ha latar joined MI6. This may have been because his uncle, Sir Graham Greene, who was close to both Naval Intelligence and Mi6, had "wiped the siate clean".

Greene's near-obsession with Catholicism, tha bonk says

Europe and The World

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Geneva Gibraltar Istanbul Jakarta Johung Lisbon Los Angeles Majorca Malaga Melbourne Maring Cibr

Mexico City Miami Milan Mombasa

Montreal Moscow Munich

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stemmed not from his desire to marry his Catholic wife, Vivien, but from youthful hero worship of fig-ures such as the Irish nationalist Michael Collins and his support for the Catholic community in the Palatinate as a young man.

Novelist and author Mr West, who has also written about Georg Orwell and his work at the BBC, said yesterday ha regarded Greene as one of the most important figures in British literature this century, and possibly ever.

"You have to go back a long way to find a writer who was so closely involved in the politics and life of this country.

"He is a far more serious figure in the political history of the 20th century than has been realised." said Mr West, whose book is pub-lished by Weldenfeld & Nicolson on 23 June.

Tha book explores Greena's lasting relationship with tha spy Kim Philby, and reveals that they had a common bond; each had a relative who was locked up on suspicion of having fascist tendencies in the Second World War.

Michael Streeter

AA Roadwatch

London, All Leytonstone, Lane closures at Al2 nound-about until August 1999. London, A306 Hammer-smith Bridge, Closed until January 1998. Surrey, M25 J8-10, Lane clo-sures both ways until further notice.

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New York Osio Paris Prague Rio de Jan Riyadh Rome Salzburg

Singapore Stockholm Strasbourg

Warsaw Washington Wellington

Hull (Albert Dock) 10.52 7.8 23.29 7.4

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Mensyside, A567 Bootle,
Stanley Rd closed northbound until further notice.
Byte & Wear, A19 Newcastle area. Roadworks at
Killingwaysth West Yorks, MJ 147, Major

long-term readworks until Sept 15. North Yorks, A19 Thorn-aby-on-Tees, Roadworks. Out and about with AA Roadwatch cat 0336 403 for the latest local and national matter news. Souther: The Automobile Association, Cation mobile Association, Cation could be seen all times inc VAI).

briefing

MoD admits firing the wrong sort of bullets

Soldiers and police in Northern Ireland have been firing faulty plastic hullets for the past three years, the Ministry of Defence admitted yesterday. The batch of 284,500 plastic baton rounds was withdrawn in April after tests revealed that a third of them were firing faster than the permitted maximum of 156 miles per hour.

During last summer's disturbances in the province, a total of 9,000 rounds of plastic bullets were fired both by the army and by the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

MoD sources said yesterday that they believed about 100 people had been injured by the weapons in the past three years, but civil liberties campaigners put the total much higher. There are three outstanding compensation claims, but it is thought unlikely that the claimants will be able to prove the bullets which hit them were faulty.

In a written Parliamentary answer, the Defence Minister, John Spellar, said that the Government would keep the use of plastic bullets under continuous review. In future stocks would be tested regularly to ensure that they continue to conform to specification,

SOCIETY

US ready for black president

A comprehensive survey of racial attitudes in the United States has found that the vast majority of white Americans would now be prepared, for the first time, to vote for a black president. It even suggests that whites would be slightly more willing (93 per cent against 91 per cent) to vote for a "suitably qualified" black than

would blacks themselves.

The proportion of whites saying that they would be willing to elect a black to the White
House has doubled in the past

30 years and is up from 77 per cent I0 years ago. Black opinion has remained stable

over the same period.

This change, which is attributed in part to the emergence – in General Colin Powell (right) – of a black politician who appeals across racial lines is the most positive finding in a wide-ranging poll of racial attitudes conducted by Gallup. Mary Dejevsky



PREJUDICE

Gays' mental health discrimation

Lesbians and gay men are living in a "climate of fear", experiencing physical assault, verbal abuse and discrimination when they use mainstream mental health services.

Research by the mental health charity Mind found that nearly three-quarters had experienced prejudice and discrimination and more than one in five suffering physical and sexual violence.

More than half said that staff had used their homosexuality to explain their mental health problems and had been told they might

have fewer problems if they were heterosexual. *Despite the fact that homosexuality has not been listed as a mental health problem for over 20 years, it is clear that many mental health professionals still consider homosexuality to he a mental illness," said Judi Clements, chief executive of Mind.

Glenda Cooper

HEALTH

Cervical cancer affects the young

Cervical cancer is occurring more often in younger women, although the overall number of cases is in decline, research shows. The disease, the second most common cancer in women, is now peaking in women aged 30-39, compared with a peak in women aged 45-59 in the early 1970s, according to a study in *The Journal of Medical Screening*.

The study also shows the disease is changing. Cases of one type of cervical cancer - adenocarcinoma - are four times higher than in 1971, but cases of somemous cell carcinoma are gradually decreasing. Adenocarcinoma is difficult to spot in the pre-invasive stage and may be underdiagnosed as a result, the researchers from the University of Cambridge say. **Jeremy Laurance**

Sweet-toothed Britons in decline

Sugar consumption fell to a 20-year low in the first quarter of the year as Britons became increasingly health-conscious about their food at home.

New government figures show that at the start of the year we ate more green vegetables, fruit, eggs and skimmed milk, and less fatty food. Yet we are spending 13 per cent more than last year on alcoholic drinks, soft drinks and sweets, according to the latest National Food Survey (NFS), covering the first quarter of 1997.

The survey also shows that household consumption of beef has

recovered completely from the BSE scare of last year. Compared to the same period in 1996, when the government announced a possible link between "mad cow disease" and the fatal human illness, Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD), beef consumption was 5 per cent higher, continuing an upward trend over the past nine

TRANSPORT

Drivers fill up on a crash diet

Nearly half of motorists admit to eating and driving, and most of the food consumed is of the junk variety, according to a survey published today. Crisps, chips and chocolate are favoured by munching motorists, the Autoglass research found.

Autoglass spokesman Andy Edyrean said: "It's astonishing to think drivers are bombing along busy roads with a burger or kebab in one hand. It's a crash diet — an accident waiting to happen."

The survey showed that a typical driver's on-the-road monthly

The survey showed that a typical driver's on-the-road monthly menu included six bags of crisps, six chocolate bars, six bags of sweets, three sandwiches, two pies, two burgers, a bag of chips, a doughnut and a kebab.



THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD

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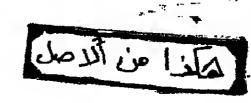
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Cookson saves art gallery

The writer Dame Catherine Cookson has saved the Hatton Gallery in Newcastle from closure, the day after a decision was made to withdraw its funding.

The best-selling author of The Black Candle, The Mullen Streak and Feathers in the Fire, who has sold more than 100million copies in 17 languages, has pledged £50,000 a year for the next five years in order to keep

the gallery open.
On Monday night the university council decided to cease funding the to 14-12 that they would be med gallery, which has been in existence since 1926 and contains works by, among others, Kurt Schwitters, Goya and Francis Bacon.

The university ascribed its decision to budgetary constraints. It has to make cuts of 6 per cent across the next three years and closing the gallery would make a saving of approximately £45,000.

James Wright, the vice-chancellor, said: "I am most delighted with this rapid and remarkable response by Dame Catherine Cookson which sets the university well on the way to securing the future of the Hatton Gallery." The university now aims to raise £100,000 a year to create sufficient funds to "revitalise" the gallery as a "vibrant contribution to the region's arts provision".

The decision to close the gallery had

porters of the gallery claiming that the benefits of keeping it open far out-weighed any benefits made by the saving. Bill Varley, a fine art lecturer who helped head the campaign, had de-scribed closing the gallery as "like having a medical school and saying you're removing the operating theatres."

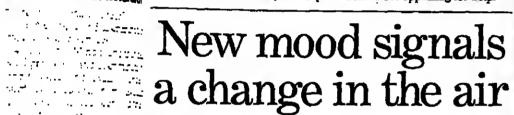
لكذا من الاما

Yesterday he was overjoyed at the news that it would remain open. "God bless her, it's the most marvellous, generous thing," he said. "This is exactly a five-year breathing space to get the thing back on track and attract lottery funding." Mr Varley added.

It is the latest of many donations made by the bedridden Dame Catherine, who suffers from a blood disorder and is nearly blind. She has given money to the university before, to the library and medical school,

Last month the renowned benefactor, who at one point created her own charitable foundation, donated £50,000 to ex-servicemen who suffered illness after being involved with nuclear tests. The 90-year-old novelist made the gift to help to fund an independent study after learning of the veterans' distrust of government-sponsored health surveys.

Last year she helped to revive an independent school that closed because of falling pupil numbers, donating more than £40,000 towards the cost of leasing a new site for Charters Ancaster College, after parents been a controversial one, with sup- wrote to ber appealing for help.



Chris Godsmark
Business Correspond **Business Correspondent**

Gesta & British Airways did not actually use the words "New Labour, new airline yesterday." but the implication was unequivocal yesterday, as the world's favourite carrier launched its new

r affects the your 160m image. world's biggest ever satellite link-up, A 14 4 1 14 1 A Decime resurts BA's chief executive, Bob Ayling, and remain results painted a less "arrogant", less "self-* important" image for the airline,

inked to a new mood in the nation. "There's a noticeable note of change trager . . harang the de in the air. There's a new air about the an one and the area about the country. We even beat my friends at a country with the country which is now our great game, which is now our great game.

It took John Prescott, the deputy the country with the cou

lere 21 prime minister, to ram home the analogy. "We can all think of major international companies which have stood still and declined. You have to be prepared to change, to reposition.

Dare I say it, New Labour saw that,"

. : he said at the launch. But as he spoke, "Old Labour" flexed its muscles as the Transport and General Workers Union sent out strike ballot papers to 5,000 ground staff at Heathrow and Manchester. The dispute is over BA's plans to sell off or out-source departments such as catering and aircraft servicing.

BA claimed the unions were going back on a landmark deal buying out restrictive working practices at Heathrow. Mr Ayling said the strike ballot was very disappointing, "Our new identity is about jobs; it's about training. People who talk about a virtual airline' don't know what they're

The re-launch, backed by a £6bn investment programme over the next three years, is one of the bold est by any global company. Gone is the conservative logo used since be-fore privatisation in 1984. BA's new identity positions the airline as "a cit-izen of the world," recognising that 60 per cent of passengers come from outside the UK.

More than 50 different designs representing ethnic communities will grace the tailfins of BA's 300 aircraft, with only the seven Concordes still using a variation on the Union flag. "Airlines are extraordinarily chauvinistic. This is our attempt to break out of the chauvinism of the

past," Mr Ayling explained.
The London design consultants
Newell and Sorrell spent two years on the concept, which will continue through check-in desks, ticket wallets and even staff outfits. They tracked down over 2,000 artists and craft workers from Hong Kong to Poland and Southern Africa to Comwall



Simply divine: The Crouch End Festival Chorus performing in Wroclaw, Poland. The choir of amateurs, which includes teachers, stockbrokers and factory workers, has enjoyed unexpected success in America with an album reaching 13 in the US charts

Choir from Crouch End hits all the right notes in the US

David Lister Arts Editor

An amateur choir made up of psychotherapists, teachers and stockbrokers from north London bas reached number 13 in the American Billboard charts with an album of choral music.

The success has come as a shock to the 130 singers from the London suburb of Crouch End, who received session fees amounting to £9,000 between them for the album Cinema Choral Classics.

The men and women of the Crouch End Festival Chorus meet to sing every week at a local secondary school and in the 13 years since the choir was formed have built up a strong reputation, giving concerts at the Royal Festival Hall and the Barbican Centre.

But they have never had a week like this week. An album of choral music used in movies such as The Mission and The Omen, recorded at sessions over two years, went straight in at number 13 in Billboard's classical crossover ebart. It also reached number 20 in the classical crossover charts bere.

David Temple, the orchestra's conductor and co-founder, said yesterday: "It's wonderful news. I know people will look at our name and think that it's something dowdy and suburban, but we are one of London's best choirs. We have toyed with the idea of changing the name, but we decided to stick with it as it's where we come

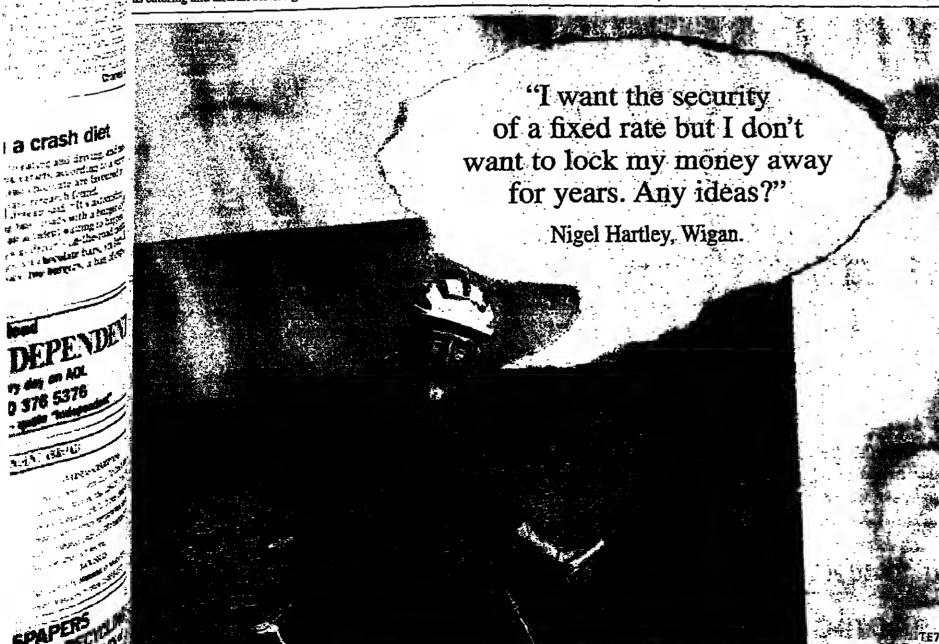
"We baven't got any plans to tour America; but if the album keeps going up, then it would be rather nice to go over to the States." At present, he said, the choir just gets paid session

fees for its recordings, but he added: "In future we may think about a royalties deal." He said all the members of

the choir were amateurs. Their day jobs included psychotherapists, teachers, city workers, shopkeepers and factory workers. The record's producer,

James Fitzpatrick, of Silva Screen Records, said yesterday that when he first signed the choir, his managing director wanted them to change their name

hut they refused.
"In America the radio stations are more interested in the films like The Omen. They don't mind what the



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THE TREATMENT AND THE PARTY OF PRO LINE AND GREEK

with a burger

Aitken is accused of 13 lies over Ritz

Kim Sengupta

Former Cahinet minister Jonathan Aitken was yesterday accused in the High Court of telling a web of 13 lies over his stay at the Paris Ritz

George Carman, QC, for the defence said Mr Aitken's version "produced 13 matters which added together show a catalogue of coincidence of such improbability as to be preposterous. It is such a catalogue of coincidence that it is tainted."

Mr Aitken, the former Defence Procurement Minister and Chief Secretary to the Treasury, is suing The Guardian and Granada TV, the makers of World In Action, over allegations that he was in the "pocket" of powerful Saudi interests. pimped for Arabs, and was involved in secret arms deals.

He claims that his controversial stay at the Paris Ritz in September 1993 was during a trip to see his daughter settled at a Swiss school. The payment of his hotel bill by the Saudi Prince Mohammed was an "unfortunate muddle"

Mr Carman has told Mr Jus-tice Popplewell, hearing the libel action without a jury, that Mr Aitken's acceptance of such hospitality from a son of the Saudi king would have directly contravened the guidelines on ministerial conduct.

Turning to the payment of the hotel hill Mr Carman listed what he alleged were 13 lies. They include the following:

The Ritz got his registration form wrong by allocating his hill to Saudi businessman Said Ayas, either by a deliberate

set-up or a mistake. He offered his credit card on arrival hut it was rejected, and he never discovered the method which should used to pay the bill. Mr Aitken never asked for a bill at anytime and his wife,

got what he called a receipt — but in fact it was the last page of Mr Ayas's hill.

Mr Aitken's close friend, Mr Ayas, never told him that Prince Mohammed was paying the en-tire bill and concealed that fact for two years after the event.

Mr Aitken told the Cabinet Secretary in March 1994 that his wife had paid his hill and had a receipt for it, that statement being untrue and designed to mislead the official.

Mr Aitken copied that letter to John Major knowing it was untrue, and did not attempt to correct the deceptions until compelled to produce the documents 14 days later after Mr Major intervened and suggested the receipt he send to The Guardian.

In April 1994 Mr Aitken told the Cabinet Secretary Mr Ayas's nephew Abdul Rahman. had overpaid his hill and had confirmed that to Mr Aitken. Mr Rahman had received

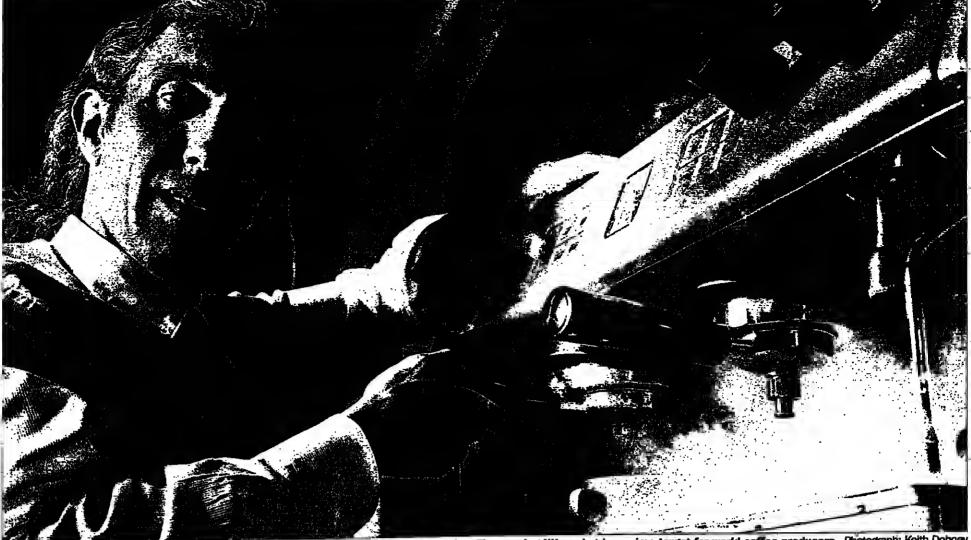
Mr Aitken's cheque hut pursuant to Mr Aitken's "conspiratorial agreement" with Mr Ayas and banked it, although not entitled to a penny of it. while not informing Mr Aitken. Mr Aitken had a conversa-

tion with Prince Mohammed while at the Ritz about a possible defence contract to do with four British submarines, but did not reveal that until the inquiry, in October 1994, into other allegations.

At the end of presenting that list to the court, Mr Carman said: "When you add up that

catalogue of improbabilities, do you not realise how scandalously incredible, and how preposterous, your story is?"
Mr Aitken responded: "No,

I don't realise any such thing ... I completely reject the flamboyant allegations made during those 13 points and, above all, at the end of those 13 points."



Louie Salvoni, of the Café Society, demonstrating the art of coffee-making. The growing UK market is a prime target for world coffee producers Photograph: Keith Dobney

ffee becomes new currency of crime

lan Burrell

The jar of instant coffee has suddenly become a desirable trading commodity for loan sharks and small-time drug dealers in a trend which mirrors the surge in demand for coffee on the international markets.

A sharp rise in the price of instant coffees has made them a target for thieves who are stealing to order to pay off their dehts from high-interest loans or drugs. The British Retail Consor-

tium and the National Association of Prohation Officers (Napo) said yesterday that the pattern bad heen identified in cities across Britain.

Michael Schuck, the consortium's assistant director of retail crime, said: "People see coffee going up in the shops and it becomes more of a marketable commodity than other

or razors. Coffee is a fairly expensive commodity. You can quite easily steal four jars of coffee and put them in a coat, a bag or underneath a haby." Mr Schuck, a former police

officer, said there was an organised racket in large drums of instant coffee being stolen to order from supermarket shelves. "They are sold on to hotels, restaurants and cafes," he said.

Harry Fletcher, assistant general secretary of Napo, said that such pilfering had recently been reported in Bradford, Merseyside, London and Greater Manchester. "This stealing of coffee is a new idiosyncratic twist to a long-standing scandal of steal-ing to order. Dehtors are being encouraged to shoplift whichever goods are currently the most easy to fence."

Extreme cold weather in Brazil has hit coffee production this year, triggering a frenzy of buying by speculators which

Coffee prices New York "C" contract, cents per lb and Nescafe Gold Blend, E per 100g jar left scale, co

bas forced prices to a 20-year high. Forecasts of more cold weather led to another 7 per cent rise on the New York mar-ket yesterday, where coffee closed at 253,30 cents a pound, compared to less than 100 cents in December. At one point late last month, the price reached 318 cents, the highest level since the 1970s when freezing

weather forced Brazilian producers to relocate entire coffee

plantations to warmer areas. As a result of the increase, the price of coffee also rose in the shops. Nestlé put up the price of its 100g jars of Gold Blend by 17p to £2.54 late last

The price rises have done little to arrest the coffee revolution which has led to a boom in
American-style coffee houses ers, the jar of instant has become so sought-after in some areas and Italian espresso bars. The Seattle Coffee Compa-

ny will this week open its 24th branch, only two years after two Seattle exiles set up their first shop in Covent Garden. It now has outlets in Edinburgh, Glas-gow, Birmingham, Cambridge and Swindon.

Louie Salyoni, vice-chairman of the Café Society, which represents the ground coffee industry, said: The UK market is being targeted by all the major coffee producers of the world because of its potential. We are still European-led in our taste and profile but there is a movement towards latte because of the advent of American coffee concepts."

Yet while the coffee cognoscenti argue over the relative merits of robusta and arabica beans and the price of cappuccino and espresso mak-

that is being placed under protection. In one shop in Greenock, near

Glasgow, so many jars have been stolen that they are placed out of reach alongside the warning: "Coffee behind counter due to criminal activity." Tom Ward, a solicitor in the

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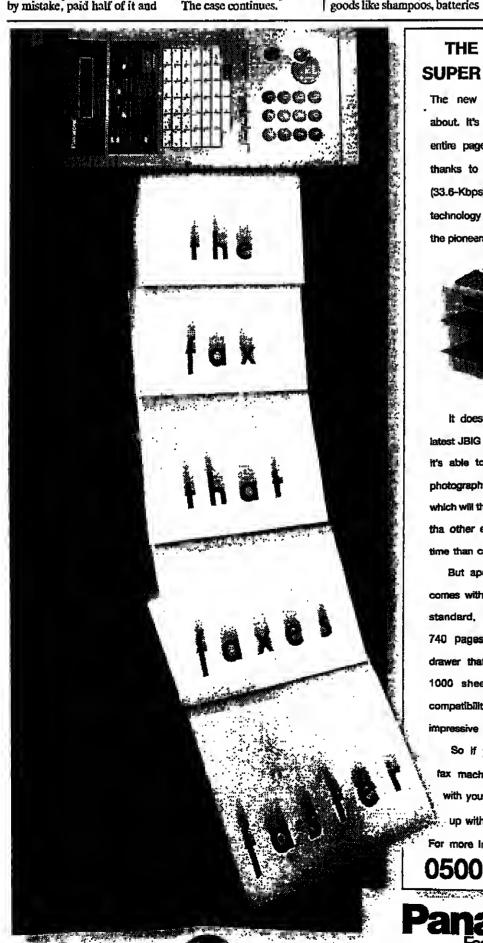
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New Island

town, has had to represent a succession of clients arrested after stealing jars of coffee to order as a way of paying off

He said: "The price of coffee. is such now that it's expensive, it's easy to lift and easy to sell on. That's the attraction Last week, as a young moth-

er accused of shoplifting seven jars of high quality coffee appeared hefore a court in Greenock, the sheriff Sir Stephen Young, exclaimed: "Oh



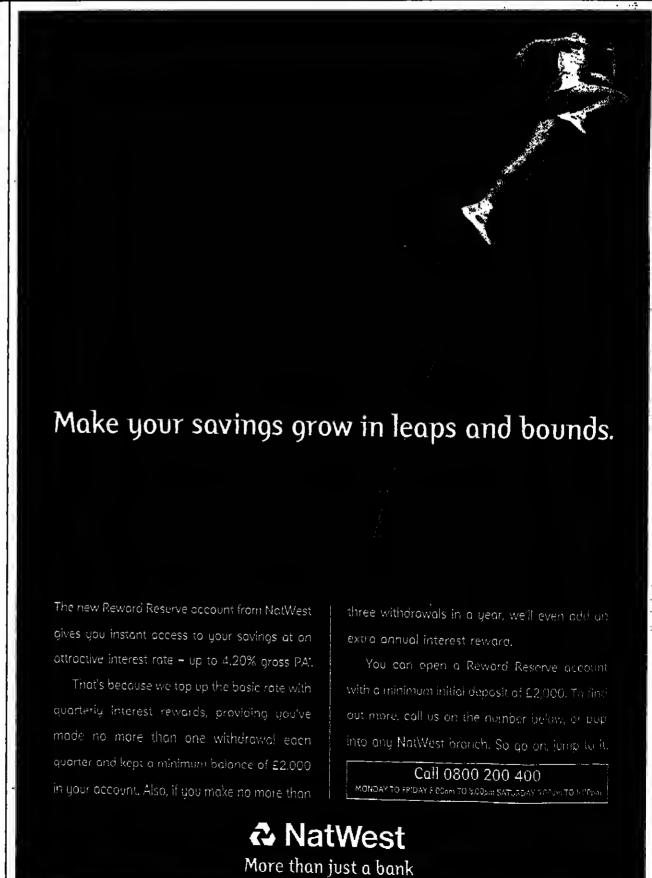
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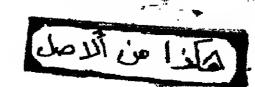
The new UF-880 doesn't hang about. It's capable of sending an entire page in around 3 seconds, thanks to tha Super G3 modern (33.6-Kbps) - the cutting edge of technology developed by Panasonic, the pioneers of modern faxes.



It doesn't stop there. With the atest JBIG compression capabilities. t's able to send documents with photographs or back-shaded text. tha other end, in remarkably less

standard, that's upgradable to





English come bottom of class in maths

Judith Judd Education Editor

English nine-year-olds are trailing pupils in the rest of the world in maths but outstripping most of them in science, according to an international

study published vesterday. Tests showed that English ninc-vear-olds came 10th out of17, lagging far behind their contemporaries in Pacific Rim countries and in Eastern

Nearly half of English pupils could not answer the question what is five fewer than 203. Ironically, a higher proportion of them thought they were good at maths than in those

In science, however, only four countries did better, and 13 per cent of English pupils were in the international top 10 per

ago. England was level with countries such as the United States, Canada and Ircland. Now it has slipped behind them.

By contrast, in science it has pulled ahead of both Hungary and Hong Kong since 1984.

Maths:

Korea

Japan

Ireland

Canada

Scotland

England

Cyprus

Norway

Greece

Portugal

Iceland

bounds.

Singapore

Hong Kong Czech Republic

United States

New Zealand

tional Foundation for Educational Research (NFER), who carried out the study in England, suggested that the poor performance in maths might be explained by larger class sizes than most countries in the survey, except for Japan and Singapore, and by less whole class teaching, less homework and greater use of calculators than

elsewhere. The improved performance in science might be explained by the extra time devoted to science since the introduction of the national curriculum and extra training given to primary

The length of time spent on maths is unlikely to be the reacountries which topped the son why English pupils are struggling. Time spent on maths is higher than in most other countries, though less than in Singapore, which tops the world

maths league. When the last similar study than England in maths but

kind ever compiled.

How the countries performed

Science:

United States

Czech Rep England

Singapore

Canada:

treland :

Norway.

Iceland

Greece

Portugal

Cyprus .

League tables show countries where test results were

Scotland

Hong Kong

Korea:

Dr Seamus Hegarty, the Around 175,000 nine-yearfoundation's director, warned of the difficulties of making inolds in more than 4,000 schools in 26 countries took part in the ternational comparisons. In survey, the Third Internation-Norway, for instance, children al Maths and Science Study, bedo no start school until they are seven and in some countries a lieved to be the largest of its significant proportion of less No western European counable nine-year-olds is kept

first part of the study, which was

the global average in all four ar-

eas: earth science, life science,

physics and environmental

In science, pupils were above

so in maths.

lish schools.

published last year.

Estelle Morris, the school standards minister, said; "This survey shows only too clearly how much we have to do to raise standards in maths. "And it highlights how right we are to concentrate on basic skills in the primary years."

An example of the maths

questions included to survey: Question 1: Write this addition fact: 4+4+4+4+4=20 — as a multiplication fact. Answer: $5 \times 4 = 20$, or 4×5

Question 2: Four children measured the width of a room by counting how many paces it took them to cross lt.

The chart shows their measurements. Stephen 10, formance in the basics compared Edward 8, Anna 9, Charles 7. with competitor countries, minis-Who had the longest pace?



Food for thought: David Blunkett having lunch at Blatchington Mill School yesterday

Blunkett chips away at school menus

Barrie Clement Labour Editor

علنا من الاما

David Blunkett yesterday revealed bis long-cherisbed plan to introduce mandatory nutritional standards for schools meals and then went off to meet children who eat chips with

The Secretary of State for Education outlined his plans for was a "chip fanatic well-balanced meals" at the constant junk food.

opening session of the Unison public service union annual conference in Brighton, and then encountered the reality of children's' diets when be went for lunch at Blatchington Mill comprehensive school at near-

Mr Blunkett, a Unison member, said he was not declaring war on chips - one of his sons was a "chip fanatic" - but on

by Hove.

He told 2.500 Unison dele-ates: "For nearly 18 years we 1979, "For some, a school din-asked about his pupils" prefergates: "For nearly 18 years we have seen the quality of school dinners deteriorate and the number of children eating them drop significantly. Yet a balanced diet is crucial to their bealth and wellbeing. If you are hungry and have a poor diet it

is difficult to concentrate and to learn effectively." Mr Blinkett said last year only 43 per cent of children took school meals

ner is the only real meal a child gets in the day. It needs to be a decent meal, not junk," "I do not want to declare war on chips, but on average our school children eat chips three

times a week and we need to make sure that alternatives are also made attractive." During the visit to the 1.500pupil Blatchington Mill School.

asked about his pupils' preferences, "Chips are very popular," he replied, "It would be wrong of me to say anything else - oh yes, and sucky huns.

The Education Secretary said he had learnt his radicalism in his own school canteen. "We had sausages three times a week. while the headteacher tucked into steak. It was my first introduction to a socialist cause."

Back to basics with daily dose of three Rs

Lucy Ward

Education Correspondent

Primary schools are to be encouraged to set aside an hour every day to teach children reading and writing to help boost standards in the three Rs. As an international study confirmed British pupils' poor per-formance in the basics compared

be urged to adopt more structured place within the existing nine-each of the basic skills.

ways of teaching maths. Schools minister Estelle

Morris yesterday called for urgent action to address poor literacy and numeracy in primary schools and asked curriculum experts to advise schools on how to give a "sharper focus" to the three Rs. Trainee teachers would be schooled in "tradi-

tional" teaching methods. However, she stressed the

subject national curriculum, which ministers have pledged will remain unchanged for children up to 14 until 2000.

Teaching unions yesterday welcomed moves to concentrate oo the basics, but warned against excessive government interference in the classroom.

Head Teachers cautioned against any attempt to preters also announced schools would shift of emphasis would take scribe a particular time slot for

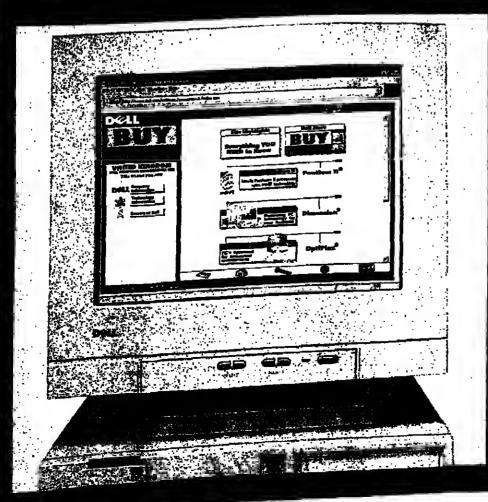
General secretary David Hart said most primary schools already ensured reading and writing took up a significant proportion of the timetable. "It is the quality of the teaching rather than the time spent

which counts," he said. Doug McAvoy, general sec-The National Association of retary of the National Union of Teachers, said teachers "do not wish to see a return to the bad old days of imposition from the

Ms Morris, addressing a conference held by the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority (SCAA), insisted the Government had no intention of dictating how, or what, schools should teach.

However, she made clear that a daily literacy hour, rec-ommended last February by a Literacy Task Force set up by Labour while in opposition, was looked upon favourably by ministers.

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Growing: A 30ft temporary sculpture being created for the South Bank, London, as part of the Coln Street Festival

Satanic abuse report runs wild on the Net

Charles Arthur Science Editor

A county council is struggling to preveot the rapid spread on the Internet of a leaked report which strongly criticises its handling of allegations of satanic abuse of children in the 1980s.

Nottinghamshire County Council has already served injunctions against four people, including a co-author of the 30,000-word report and three journalists, preventing them from reproducing or disseminating the report, claiming they are breaching copyright.

But yesterday at least six computers in four countries on the global computer network were carrying the full text of the

report, which is highly critical was disastrous". The report: of social workers in the county. Such "mirroring" is common among users of the Net to prevent the banning of material; a page can be copied and loaded onto a computer in moments, establishing a new presence.

Alistair Kelman, a British

lawyer specialising in electronic copyright law, said last night: Once something's been published on the Net, that's it. It's out there. After all, the octwork was designed to withstand a nuclear attack; it can probably survive Nottinghamshire County Council."

The council is trying, though. In a move which has surprised experts, it has even claimed that "hyperlinks", electronic pointers to other sites on the Web. can breach copyright. Hyperlinks are a standard tool connecting the millions of pages of data on the Web, often pointing between competing com-panies. Mr Kelman said: "If they win that point then it means the collapse of the Net - the whole

collapse of the Net – the whole thing depends on links."

The three journalists, Nick Aming, David Hebditch and Margaret Jervis, put the content of the Joint Eoquiry Team (JET) report into the 1988 Broxtowe Case on to a British site on the World Web at the end of last month. Under the inon 3 June. The injunction will be challenged in the High Court

The JET report investigated the handling of satanic ritual abuse claims against children, and concluded that social workers had been too prepared to believe children over police.

was originally intended for dissemination among social workers and police who might learn from its lessons. The council subsequently decided not to publish it, though the social workers involved were free to put their own views through the

media and in public meetings. In an earlier commentary on the report, the three journalists noted the number of alleged "satanic abuse" cases which cropped up in the UK after the report had been written. A oumber of those led to childreo being removed from their parents and being taken into care. "If the JET report had been made more widely available to social workers and police in 1990, would these cas have been handled differently?" they asked.

Besides contacting the British site, the Nottinghamshire county solicitor has e-mailed Jeremy Freeman, owner of a Canadian Web site carrying the text of the report, demanding he remove it. Though Mr Freeman complied, the solicitor contacted him again to demand he remove a "hyperlink" to another site with the report, also on the ba-sis of copyright. The solicitor's letter said the hyperlink to a site

in the US "is still publication" and would constitute breach of copyright.
Nottinghamshire County Council declined to comment yesterday on its reasons for suppressing the report's publication or its decision to describe

byperlinks as copyrightable. One source there said the council was auxious that the children involved in the Broxtowe case, One conclusion comments:

"The use of satanic indicators, which appeared so convincing, raked over in public.

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Bullies sentenced

Two teenage girls sent to a de-spend the rest of their sentence tention centre for three months in the adjacent young offenders yesterday for their part in a savage gang attack on a schoolmate Scottish Prison Service has who later killed herself, were pointed out there are no youth last night travelling to Scotland's

only women's prison. Michelle McBratney, 17, and flown from Stornoway on the in Inverness before being transferred today to the young offenders unit at Cornton Vale Prison in Stirlingshire. The prison has seen a number of suicides among inmates recently.

told the pair at Stornaway Sher-Lee Ann Murray, 16, were riff Court that they had "evilly" taken it on themselves to · son, 16, could not safely walk the streets of Stornoway.

her bedroom in Stornoway in February last year. In a suicide note she said bullying by certain girls The two girls are expected to had become too much for her.

unit, subject to an appeal. The

detention centres in Scotland.

Earlier, Sheriff Ian Cameron

DAILY POEM

The Moment By Hilary Davies

That was the momeot when, closing The wicket gate behind me, I knew That nothing would ever be the same again. l knew I could wait before turning, Very slowly, to look back: An eternity to note precisely How the falling sun would sketch The branches, trace the millinery Of the leaves. And then to turn So slowly, looking backwards At the glory of that other life Lived not knowing what would come, Before the eye of the storm passing Over our heads brings us the world's Ecormity, its frailness, driving And driving the exquisite spike Of ecstasy into our lives.

This poem appears in Hilary Davies's second collection, In a Valley of This Restless Mind: the volume's title sequence recounts the tragic love affair of Abelard and Héloise. It is published (price £7.95) by Enitharmon Press at 36 St George's Avenue, Londoo N7 OHD.

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Girl of 12 released from Manx prison

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Jason Bermetto Crime Correspondent

A 12-year-old girl who has been held on remand at an Isle of Man jail for the past seven days was released into the care of a children's home last

It also emerged that the girl who faces nine charges of assault and criminal damage has been crying and shouting while at the prison in the

island's capital Douglas. In addition, it has been revealed

that a 14-year-old boy has been sent back to the Victoria Road jail on remand after breaking his hail conditions. A 16-year-old boy is already serving a 32 week sentence at the five-cell juvenile annexe.

The girl's lawyer said last night that the child, who is described as very disturbed, was "happy and pleased" to

be leaving the Victorian prison.
The island's social services have agreed to provide extra staff and 24hour surveillance to ensure the girl is kept secure at Cummal Shee chil-

14, and the remainder were aged 15 A "deemster" - an Isle of Man

youngest was uged 12 five were aged

jailing of children.

dren's home in Douglas. The U-turn the home had refused to take her the court in Douglas yesterday rethe home had refused to take her the court in Douglas yesterday rethe court in Douglas yesterday rebecause it does not have a secure unit leased the girl, who cannot be named -follows a furore caused by the pub- for legal reasons, on custody and lication in The Independent about the hailed her to reappear in court to-

In the past three years there have It is understood that the conditions been 31 cases, some involving repeat of bail are that she must stay at the offenders, of juveniles aged up to 16 being jailed on the Isle of Man. The home at all times and only leave with a member of staff.

When the girl appeared before a court last week she was said to be in moral danger, but was jailed after she refused to accept conditions that she

of assaulting members of staff at the

The Isle of Man does not have a specialist secure unit, and children as young as ten can, under Mant law, be sent to a special annexe at the adult jail. This practice was condemned as "barbaric" by civil liber-

ty groups.
Terence McDonald, the girl's lawyer, yesterday criticised the police for charging the girl. "The po-

cumstances of juveniles and are fairs minister, said plans to redevelop treating child offenders like adults.

They are exaggerating the juvenile were likely to include moving the juvenile. delinquency by charging so many young people.

Commenting on the decision by social services to provide extra staff at the children's home, he said: "I welcome it but feel it is a great pity that something could not have been done sooner. There is desperate need for a separate secure unit

Allan Bell, the island's home afvenile annexe away from the main jail. And he added: "The prison officers are trained specifically to look after youngsters and have a different method of approach to them than they would the regular

prisoners. "I inherited a situation I can do nothing about. I have to live with what I have got,"

Islanders take moral umbrage at criticism

News that a 12-year-old girl was being incarcerated in a Victorian jail on the Isle of Man provoked an unusual response from the islanders.

Many of those who telephoned a local radio chai show were outraged and angry at what had happened.

However, their fury was not at the island's continued practice of imprisoning children, but at the uppity British media and do-gooders for interfering, and against one of their own inhabitants for breaking ranks and going public on a practice he described as a "scandal" and "bar-

The 72,000 residents of the craggy island,16 miles off the Scottish coast in the Irish Sea, have been thrown into a heated debate since The Independent revealed last Saturday that a 12-year-old girl was being held on remand on charges of assault and criminal damage at a prison annexe. Under Manx law children as young as 10 can be detained at the island's only jail.

Rosemary Crosby, the gov-ernor of the Victoria Road prison in Douglas, said: "English people do not understand that we hear reports all time about 'ratboy' and other 14- and

Jason Bennetto finds the residents of the Isle of Man angry at outside

inference

touched by the law. You are powerless to act. The Isle of Man takes a different view that we do have authority and responsibility over our children. Our society still prides itself on this.

"People do not take kindly to being told by England that what they are doing is wrong and morally inferior."

The island has a reputation for tough action on crime and intolerance. Its inhabitants are fiercely proud of its independent identity - it is a Crown dependency and not part of the UK or European Union - and are

Rights Convention forced the Isle of Man to change its laws on corporal punishment and homosexuality. In 1992, the island's parliament voted to decriminalise sexual acts between consenting men, but only after the British government 15-year-olds who cannot be threatened to intervene. A year

prepared to fight for it. The United Nations Human later hanging was abolished, but at the same time the island's government voted to retain hirching.

The police also have a reputation for taking a hard line on juvenile offenders. Without an independent Crown Prosecution Service it is left up to the police whether to bring charges. Last year, out of 625 crimes in-

volving juveniles, 242, or about two-fifths, were prosecuted, this included 89 children aged 10 to 13. A further 43 children were cautioned.

A Manx government report recently acknowledged that the use of imprisonment has resulted in the island's jail population being 12.5 per cent higher per head of the population girl that age will know the dif- approach. Linda Coe, a shop

of crime are lower than in

walking alongside the island's jail yesterday had little sympathy for the 12-year-old girl. "Just because they are nine, ten, or 12 they should still be made responsible for their actions. A

have got it right."

Not everyone supports this

Mr McDonald said yesterday: are looking children up in pris-"Many people and the politions and forcing them to steep cians are concerned about the in cells."

Hard cell: The annexe at Victoria Road jall in Douglas where the 12-year-old girl was held. Under Manx law, children as young as 10 can be detained there Photograph: Tom Pilston than in the UK. Overall levels ference between right and worker in Douglas, said: "I island's image and do not want think its disgraceful. The prison to frighten off the financial wrong. "People in England autois not fit for adults, let alone chilsector or tourists. But this does Britain. A middle-aged Manx woman matically think we are barbarnot matter, we need to ensure dren." Others have contacted the ic because of the hirching issue, that our children are treated but we look at how the authorgirl's lawyer, Terence McDonald, to express their anger and We are not a poor country ities' hands are tied in dealing with youngsters and think we and it is to our shame that we

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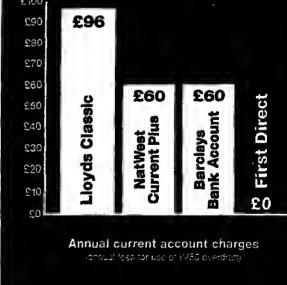
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EXTRA

news

Travel rules ease animal suffering

Nicholas Schoon **Environment Correspondent**

New rules aimed at curbing the suffering of farm animals ex-ported alive for slaughter were introduced by the Government vesterday.

But Jack Cunningham, the Agriculture Minister, said Britain would be seeking a special opt-out for pedigree pigs, which already travel in relatively luxurious conditions.

The new rules, which come mto force on 1 July, implement a 1995 European Union directive on the transport of live an-imals six months late. Half of the union's member states failed to meet the legal deadline for implementing the directive through their own laws.

But the European Commis-sion has also broken a deadline for implementing the law, which

Planners

go to war

against

of Scots

West Lothian has a new question. Is the heart-tugging story of Mary Queen of Scots the best draw for the district's most

significant historical pile, Linlithgow Palace, or should the emphasis be on its fine Re-

Mary Stuart's birthplace in central Scotland has stood a roofless, romantic ruin for 250 years. But a proposal to repair part of

the huilding and create a "Mary Queen of

Scots Experience" bas got a rather sniffy response from council planners.

Mary's tragic story is "old hat, over-romantic, negative and too concerned with

Stephen Goodwin Heritage Correspondent

naissance architecture?

animal welfare groups bad long campaigned for. It is more than a year late in producing detailed specifications for lorries which carry farm animals for more than eight hours. In the absence of these specifications, Britain will continue with its own 22year-old vehicle standards for

live animal transport. The UK's new regulations lay down maximum journey and rest times for animals and give ministers new powers to disqualify carriers who seriously or persistently hreak welfare regulations. Young farm animals can trav-

el for nine bours before a minimum rest period off the vehicle of one hour, followed by a further nine hours' travel. Adult cattle and sheep can travel for 14 hours before a minimum rest of one bour, followed by a fur-

ther 14 hours' travel.

longer than eight hours will have to bave training in looking af-ter farm animals and under-

standing their condition.

Carriers wanting to take cattle, sheep, goats, pigs and horses for journeys over eight hours and for all journeys overseas will need a government authorisation.

The cattle exposes for

Live cattle exports from Britain have ceased following the BSE ban on UK beef exports. The trade in live sheep and lambs has also declined sharply. Last year some 760,000 were carried, only about half the number for 1995.

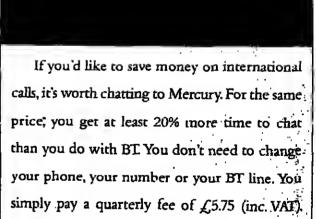
Britain also exports valuable pedigree pigs to the continent in a trade worth nearly £100m a vear. The maximum journey time for pigs under the new reg-ulations is 24 hours, but Mr Cunningham wants an exception made for these animals

All staff involved in journeys They travel with plenty of space. ventilation, food, and water, and because they are certified as dis-ease-free the exporters want them to stay confined until they reach their final destination.

Dr Cunningham added that the Government strongly pre-ferred export of meat rather than live animals, for the sake of animal welfare and because provided more work for British abattoirs and meat

Julia Wrathall, a farm animal welfare expert with the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, said the EU directive failed to give farm an-imals sufficient protection from suffering in long journeys in crowded lorries. She had doubts about enforcement, but welcomed the Government's intention of reviewing how the rules were working after one year.

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Queen of hearts: West Luthian council says Linithgow Palace's architecture will attract more visitors than a 'Mary Queen of Scots Experience'

royal rather than social history", according to a report submitted to West Lothian councillors yesterday. David Jarman. head of strategic planning and transportation, admitted the Mary saga was "undoubtedly popular in appeal" but pressed an alternative approach that could "build on the palace's cultural links with Europe". Modern architectural scholarship

had recognised its outstanding status as an early and significant expression of the Re-naissance in Scotland, be explained. But while the palace may have influenced the design of other great houses in north-ern Europe, few outside the council think

that is its most important claim to fame -or the one most likely to increase visitor numbers above the current 50,000 a year. Mary was born at Linlithgow in Decem-ber 1542, six days before the death of ber father, James V. Brought up in the French court, she married the Dauphin and was hriefly Queen of France. Two husbands later, ber turbulent life was brought to an end on the scaffold - executed on the orders of

Elizabeth I whose throne she coveted.

Historic Scotland, custodians of the

prise, and the council are at the consulta-tion stage of the £10m to £12m restoration plan. The Mary theme was put forward by a firm of consultants as a way of drawing more visitors once the roof and some of the interior of the North Range of the palace

Historic Scotland, a government quango, regards the palace as "under-performing" but yesterday to emphasised that no decisions have been taken on any theme. No work will begin this side of the millen-Historic Scotland, custodians of the palace, Lothian and Edinburgh Enter-

Tam Dalyell, the town's Labour MP finds the future of Linlithgow Palace easier to tackle than his own West Lothian Question dogging devolution.
"I believe in noble ruins," Mr Dalyell

said. "There are many more things deserving of spending public money on. But it is Mary Queen of Scots, and the romance around her, that would draw the visitors."

Linlithgow Academy history teacher Gordon Currie was in no doubt that Mary was the lure. "You say to the average punter 'Renaissance and Europe' and you will get queues going in the opposite direction.

Baby had no chance, says doctor

Glenda Cooper Social Affairs Correspondent

The doctor accused of letting a premature baby die in her mothr's arms said it would have been "futile, heroic and foolish" to try to keep the child alive.

Dr Faisal al-Zidgali, a paedi-atrician at Ayreshire Central Hospital said Rebecca Cassidy had been "extremely premature" and stood no chance of

surviving.

Rebecca was born at the hospital in September last year following a pregnancy of up to 25 weeks, but Dr Zidgali deemed her to be "non-viable" with no prospect of survival. Her mother, Kirsty, told the

court vesterday that she plead-

accident inquiry at Kilmarnock Sheriff Court that Rebecca had been an extremely premature baby - 12 inches long, with a head smaller than a tennis ball. bruising across her head and abdomen and fused eyes. Her heart rate was between

thing to save the baby because she thought she looked healthy

and normal. In her evidence she

said the decision whether a

But Dr Zidgali told the fatal

the parents, not doctors.

10 and 12 - compared with a normal rate for newborn babies of 120-160 and she felt cold because of poor circulation. She was gasping rather than breathing and the movements she

voluntary muscle and nerve spasms, the doctor added. Rebecca did not have any

chance of surviving because of her condition and I did not have prematurely born baby had a right to life should be made by any doubt in my mind," he told the inquiry. "We are not just dealing with a premature baby. We are dealing with a very ex-tremely premature baby. "I think it is futile, heroic and

foolish to try to do something for a baby that in my clinical judgement is not viable. You should not do anything to harm the baby.

Dr Zidgali said he had resuscitated premature babies before, even those horn in the 23-25 week period (the legal limit for abortion is 24 weeks), but they had all had high beart rates and ed in vain for him to do some- was making were down to in- looked pink and relatively

healthy. The longest any survived was for two or three days. In his most recent case, the baby had died after just 10 hours.

Dr Zidgali also denied a number of times that there had been a complete communications breakdown between himself and the parents. After Rebecca's birth he had said to Mrs Cassidy: "I'm very sorry, she's in a very poor condition and there's nothing 1 can do."

"There was no criticism of my management. She thanked me and wished me the best of luck, and it's not common for us as juniors to be wished the best of luck. I felt really that I did something. That a mum who had been through all this appreciated me and wished me the best

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Tory leadership: Howard and Lilley trail in last as first ballot of 164 MPs puts Hague in pole position to beat Clarke

Redwood glee as Right regroups

Colin Brown

Chief Political Correspondent green outside the Palace of Vestminster yesterday as the Redwood camp danced with delight at beating Michael Howard and Peter Lilley for third

fourth televisioo interview. Julian Brazier kissed Angela Browning. "I cannot stop smiling in a rather inane way," said another member of the camp.
"It suits you," said another

Redwood supporter.

David Wilshire, the acting chief whip of the Redwood party, said their leader had been in touch with Mr Howard and Mr Lilley to offer them places in his campaign team.

place, while their hero did his

ity, Michael Portillo's fan club was strolling around the green in sombreros. A four-piece guitar group strummed Mexican love songs to the man who missed out on the leadership contest hecause he lost his seat at the election.

John Redwood appeared to be the only man at Westminster who was not surprised by the result. "Why did nobody believe me?" he said, his arms wide

In the background, Michael Heseltine looked thunderstruck as he prepared for another interview. Lord Archer, a Lilley supporter, said: "All I said was there would be one hig surprise. I wasn't expecting that one." The Howard and Lilley sup-

by the results, scattered to the 17 June" corners of the Commons to discuss what they could do to rescue something from the wreckage of their campaigns.
One former minister said:

"They can't assume our votes are going to transfer to Redwood. I voted with my head for Howard. I'm going to vote with my heart in the second ballot. and vote for Clarke."

The result was announced by Archie Hamilton, chairman of the 1922 Committee, to Conservative backbench MPs in the committee room at 5.19 pm. "Kenneth Clarke 49; William Hague 41; Michael Howard 23; Peter Lilley 24: John Redwood 27. As no candidate has received the required number of votes,

porters, confused and downcast

The counting had been quick-er than the last time, when John Major won, hecause there were only 164 ballot papers to he counted. Mr Major voted by proxy after the death of his mother-in-law.

His audience was stunned They raced out bemused by what they had just heard ... suppose it means more parties said ooe former senior whip.

One senior Tory MP said that he had been persuading all his friends to vote Redwood in order to "screw" the Europhiles in the belief that the

"We will take to the hills and fight a guerrilla war," he said. "It's a council of despair."



Corridor of power: William Hague (centre) joins the crowd in the House of Commons yesterday awaiting the result of the ballot for the Tory leadership

Photograph: Austin Mitchell, MP for Great Grimsby

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Continuing bitterness that bodes ill for future

Anthony Bevins Political Editor

The continuing bitterness of the Tory right does not bode well for the future of the Conservative Party. It suggests that William Hague will pull through to win the Conservative leadership. as the man who can offer some kind of spatchcock unity.

But the right-wing will not be happy, and will continue their sniping – at friend and foe alike. Some MPs even fear that a few right-wingers might yet back Mr Clarke in order to keep the feuding alive.

To the bitter end, even as polling was about the begin in Commons Committee Room 14 yesterday, John Redwood weot on BBC Radio 4's Today programme to expose fellow rightwinger Michael Howard for exaggerating his support.

By lunchtime, Peter Lilley, the other right-winger in the race, was appearing on The World at One to take a further kick at Mr Howard.

Pointing out that the former home secretary had only garoered 10 constitueocy votes, of the 653 available, Mr Lilley said he had himself made a much higger impact than the "self-proclaimed hig hitter." In fact, of the 567 British con-

stituency parties that did cast an advisory vote, a clear majority went for Clarke, while a third hacked Hague, and a measly tenth went for the three right-

wingers combined. It was left to Sir Michael Spicer, Mr Howard's Thatcherite campaign manager, to put those results in context. The last leadership contest that I took part in," he said, "was one in which the overwhelming support of the party in the country was quite clearly for Willie Whitelaw and had that gone through and had its effect, we oever would have heard of Margaret Thatcher, we never would have had the Thatcher years."

If Sir Michael intends to resist demands for a significant constituency voice in future leadership elections, he is riding for a fall. The outstanding question that comes from the current MPs-only franchise is: what proportion of votes will go to the party members in a future electoral college?

Mr Hague himself said: "There are only two coherent systems of election. One is for MPs to decide, the other is for every member of the party to have a vote, although MPs could retain a larger share of the electoral college." The more immediate issue

for the Conservative 164 MPs is how they now switch their votes for oext Tuesday's contest. Unless Mr Clarke withdraws in favour of Mr Hague, it would appear that there are just two

choices ahead. Redwood versus Hague would ensure a win for Mr Hague because of the threat of further strife, and possible defections, that Mr Redwood

might provoke. Clarke versus Hague would ensure a win for Mr Hague because too many MPs would fear the fall-out of splits and rifts that might follow a Clarke vic-

The alternative, which cannot be ruled out, is that Hague manages to secure the occessary 83 votes needed for a clear-cut second-round win next Tuesday.

Yesterday, he had 41 hardcore votes of his own. The Redwood votes will remain secure for the right, but the Lilley-Howard combined total of 47 could be more volatile. That would be enough to give Hague 88 if they switched eo hloc, which they will not.

But in the privacy of a secret hallot, no one can be quite sure that some of Mr Clarke's first-round votes will not now begin to slip away - and over to the man now perceived as the ultimate victor.

Bottomley set to leave front bench

Colin Brown

Love her or loathe her, the cutglass voice of Virginia Bottomley is likely to be missed from the BBC Radio Four's Today programme.
"Ginny", as she is known at

Westminster has told friends she is standing down from the Tory front bench, whoever is elected as the new leader of the party. She told friends on the par-

ty circuit on the eve of the leadership poll that she was planning to spend more time with her family.

Mrs Bottomley, the pin-up for many Tory MPs in the Thatcher era, has been a regular voice on the BBC flagship show since John Major's 1992 general election victory, when he promoted her to the Cabi-

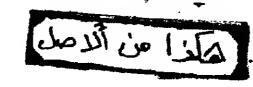
net with Gillian Shephard. As Secretary of State for Health, she earned a reputation for ringing up officials at the crack of dawn to demand a right



Bottomiey: Plans to spend more time with her family

gramme. Mrs Bottomley, 49, was responsible for hard decisions, including the proposed closure of London hospitals, now halted pending a review by Labour.

At the Department of National Heritage, she defended the National Lottery, helped protect the BBC from changes which could have opened it to more commercialism, and pre-sided of reply on the Today pro- over the Millenium Exhibition.





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Blair factor gets Islington house prices on the move

Jojo Moyes

The people of Islington, long the butt of right-wing humour, were taughing into the polenta yesterday with the news that the "Blair factor" had increased property prices by as much as 25 per cent.

Estate agents in north London were congratulating themselves that having a premier in their midst albeit one who had decided to sell his house - had helped boost property prices in the islington neighbourhood to prices reminiscent of its exclusive

neighbour Hampstead. Mr Blair, now installed in Downing Street with wife Cherie and their three children, has decided to sell his five-bedroomed home in a quiet crescent because of the huge security problem and its effect on their neighbours.

His spokesman said: "I can confirm that they are planning to sell the house. The family had hoped to stay in the house, but it became clear that this was an unrealistic proposition because of the cost to the taxpayer of securing it against terrorist attack, allied to the inconvenience caused to people living in the area. Therefore

this was the only sensible thing to do." Local estate agents expect the Prime Minister to make an even hig-ger profit than the reported £240,000 experts say he can expect over the

original purchase price.
The Blairs bought their threestorey home five years ago for £375,000, but it is now thought to be worth at least £615,000.

Local estate agent Daryl Lenhan of Bairstow Eves said the final figure may be much higher. "It is in a very popular location so it will fetch an inflated price anyway," he said. Surrounding properties are also expected to benefit from a higher valuation.

But those fancying a peek around the Blairs' former home are likely to be disappointed. Mr Lenhan said there were methods of deterring time-wasters.

nf purchasing power."
The Blairs' house is near the top end of the Islington range. A similar

market for £549,000. Paul Williams, managing director of Holden Matthews, the agents who

Georgian house in the area is on the



area. It was a talking point, but to be als and young families who were mov-

"You act on the instructions of your vendor. They might ask you to vet people and get them to show proof sold the property to the Blairs, said tage to the sale."

Des res: Tany Blair relaxes in the garden (top right) and with Cherie (above) at their £615,000 home (left) sold the property to the Blairs, said tage to the sale."

popularity for 3-5 years. The rise in in description of the property to the Blairs, said tage to the sale."

tage to the sale."

However, William Fergusson, part-

ner in Hugh Grover Estates, said that

having Britain's First Family in situ

had helped fuel a dramatic rise in

prices. "It was certainly good for the

fair Islington has been increasing in

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Photographs: PA/MSI

in droves: media and advertising

people, professional legal sector, and those from the City. A neighbour, who did not wish to be

identified, said: "I am not sorry to see the Blairs go because I think it will make life for the rest of us a little easier." Leading article, page 19

Price is right for the PM

Nic Cicutti Personal Finance Editor

Hundreds of thousands of homeownerswill be asking two key questions over the sale of the Blair family home: "What do they know that we don't? And what will they be doing with the money?"

The couple's move, earning them at least £200,000 free of tax, fotlows a price surge which has seen the value of properties in some parts of London and the south-east of England rising by more than 50 per cent in

the past 15 months.

Jeremy Leaf, a housing market spokesman for the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, which represente estate agents, warns against applying the Islington experi-ence too closely to other parts of the country. Prices, he says, may not rise so swiftly in future but there is no immediate risk of an 80s-style collapse either.

"A lot depends on any Gov-ernment measures taken to curb gazumping or to increase stamp duty. Issues like this, including interest rate rises or the abolition of mortgage interest relief, can affect confidence. One does wonder why Mr Blair is selling before the Budget."

Amanda Davidson, a partner in London financial advice firm Holden Meehan, says: "My advice would be to put the maximum into Premium Bonds. If they use their children's entidements, they can invest up to £100,000. There is always the chance to strike it lucky and, as we know, Mr Blair is lucky."

Housing policy: Places the politicians call home

Baroness Thatcher made a profit of £200,000 on her Barratt's home in Dulwich in 1992. She and Denis had bought it seven years earlier for £400,000, and they had hoped to move into it when she retired. But they decided they needed something classier and bought a five-bedroom house in Chester Square, Belgravia for nearly £750,000.

The imposing symbol of Michael Hesettine's success is the historic mansion Theford House in Northamptonshire. With 800 acres of land, the estate may be worth over eight figures. Mr Heseltine also owns a house in Belgravia worth around £1.5m, and

a thatched cottage on Exmoor which he bought for £250,000.

they were still awaiting instructions

Asked if he thought the property

would fetch an inflated price because

it belonged to the Prime Minister, Mr

Williams said: "I don't think so, but

it certainly wouldn't be a disadvan-

on what to do with the house.

Jeffrey Archer's top-floor penthouse on the south bank of the Thames at Vauxhall has been valued at £4m.

New-Labourites Barbara and Ken Foliett have several homes. Rumour has suggested their house in Cheyne Walk, Chelsea is worth a couple of million, but Mrs Follett claims it was recently valued at £750,000. As well as "a small flat in the south of France", they own a cottage in Stevenage, where Mrs Follett was recently elected MP.

Leadership battle delays sleaze report

Christian Wolmar Westminster Correspondent

Sir Gordon Downey, the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards, has become frustrated that the chaos within the Tory party is preventing the publication of his report on the cash-for-questions scandal.

Sir Gordon is anxious to draw the final line under the affair by publishing the report in order that it can he considered by MPs but the standards and privileges committee, to which it must be presented, cannot be recreated until the Tory leadership issue is resolved. The report has been ready tn

be published since before the election, but its publication was delayed by John Major's decision to "prorogue" Parliament a couple of weeks before he needed to do so and this became an important election issue.

The Government had hoped to create the standard and privileges committee and the select committees which have an important role in scrutinising departmental decisions and legis-lation, but until the leadership of the Tory party is resolved with the appointment of a shadow ministerial team, the committees cannot be reconstituted.

no outside interests, an idea to defuse internal opposition which contradicts the recommendations of the Notan Committee on Standards in Public Life. Sir Gnrdon said that he thought that the idea of having



Sir Gordon: Frustrated by chaos within Tory party

professional full-time politicians should be considered. However, the Nolan Committee report in 1995 said that Parliament benefits from having "members with continuing outside interests" and this view was reiterated Radio 4's Today programme yesterday by Professor Anthony King, a member

of the Nolan committee. ■ Labour is considering giving Sir Gordon also faces another area of controversy following his the Conservatives chairman-

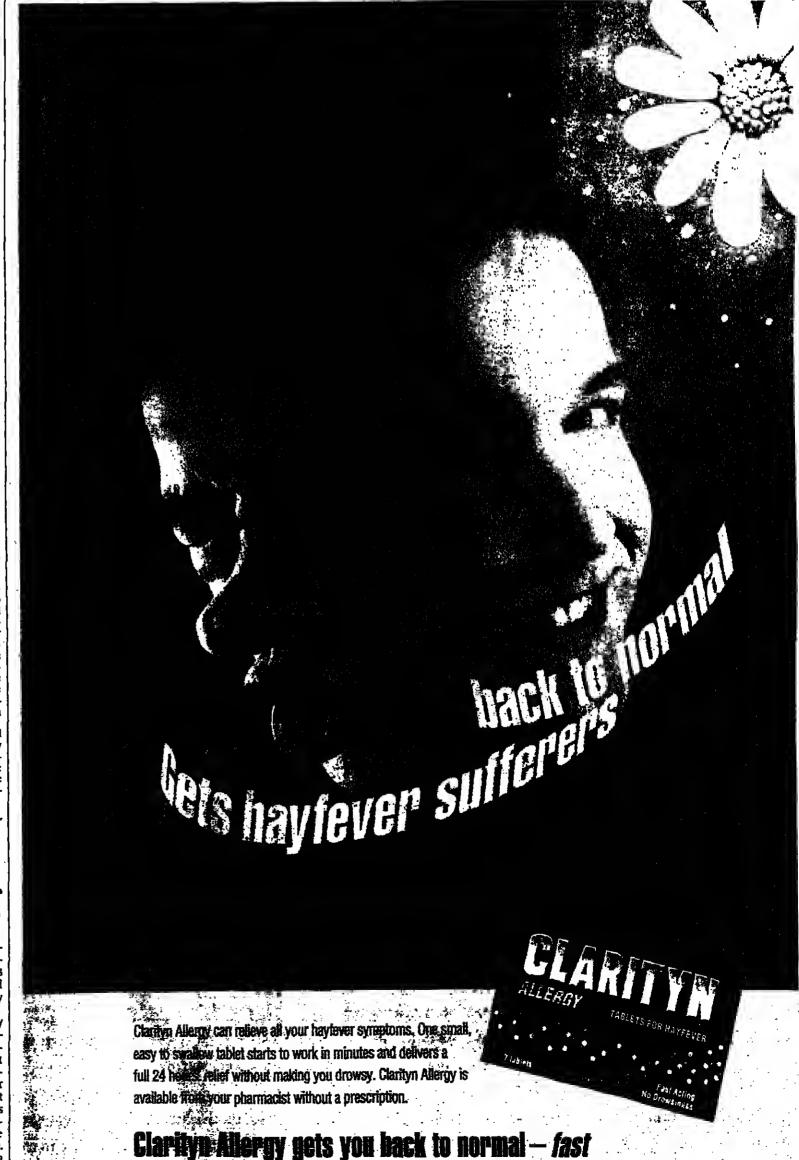
remarks in a legal magazine that he favoured full-time MPs with ship of the Commons setect committee on defence in order committee on defence in order

over possible defence cuts. A furious behind-the-scenes row is taking place over the sug-gestion, which would mean that Bruce George, the long-standing member of the committee and Labour MP for Walsall South, would not, as expected, assume the chairmanship.

One Tory source said that as part of the deal over the chairmanship, Michael Mates, a former chairman of the committee, would return to the iob.

A Labour MP suggested that Labour party chiefs may be willing to give the chairmanship to the Tories because "the planned defence review is going to result in hig cuts and it would put a Labour chairman in a difficult position". Most former members of the defence committee who would be candidates for the chairmanship are prodefence spending and therefore giving the chairmanship to the Tories would avoid giving a senior Labour figure a platform to criticise cuts

The review, to be compteted by the end of the year, is likely to result in a fierce controverover cuts. One MP said: They would not be holding the review if they were not contemplating big cuts."



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the value of his house is entirely

reflective upon the market and

time that any individual sales go through." The Blairs, he said, were

indicative of the kind of profession-

ing into the once run-down borough

Union fires warning shot over government spending

Barrie Clement Labour Editor

bench

The honeymoon period for the Government with the Labour movement came to an end yesterday when Britain's biggest union warned ministers that they would be committing "political suicide" if they stuck to

spending plans. The annual conference of Unison in Brighton warned the Blair administration that its intended adherence to the previous government's tight budgets would mean "the nail in the coffin for public services as we

know them . Ministers were issued with the veiled threat of industrial acon spending. "A Labour gov-

membership of Unison to cooperate with or be passive to attacks or cuts to jobs in the public sector," a motion warned, Delegates' overwhelming

support for critical resolutions was, however, coupled with strong backing for a statement from the executive which called for a constructive relationship with the Government. The union should work with ministers where that was possible and where it was not it would "argue clear rational alternatives". the statement said.

Nevertheless there was a demand for the re-nationalisation of the railways and utilities and the repeal of "all anti-union legislation none of which the

ernment cannot expect the ceptable. The desperate nalustrates the deep divisions between the activist-dominated conference and the relatively moderate lendership.

General secretary Rodncy Bickerstaffe emphasised that reducing unemployment was a prinrity, but warned that present policies and budgets were placing "intolerable strains nn our members". He predicted that between 60,000 and 70,000 jobs would be lost in local govern-ment, 30,000 to 50,000 in the

NHS, and many more elsewhere. Delegates also supported a motion that there should be no compromise on the minimum wage, which the union wants set at half male median earnings -£4,42 an hour at current rates.

Chirac stands against Jospin over Emu pact

John Lichfield

The battle of wills over the European single currency plunged the divided French government into its first full-blown crisis yes-

President Chirac broke with political and constitutional precedent and publicly opposed the Jospin administration's decision to block the signing of a pact imposing budgetary discipline within the European sin-

gle currency. In the two previous co-habitations in the last 11 years be-tween French presidents and prime ministers of different parties, such public spats were avoided. The President's com-

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ments will be all the more con-troversial for intervening in a tries joining the single currendispute between France and its EU partners. Mr Chirac's intervention,

made after an attempt at mediation by the Dutch Prime Minister, Wim Kok, seems un-likely to cool the atmosphere. It may make it even more difficult for the Prime Minister, Lionel Jospin, to back down when both he and Mr Chirac meet the German Chancellor, Helmut Kohl on Friday.

On Monday, the new leftwing French government, startled its EU partners - and deeply angered the Germans - by asking for a postponement of so-called stability pact imposing

cy. The Finance Minister, Dominique Strauss-Kahn, said he was not rejecting the pact. But be could not sign it without further discussion on ways of giving a bigger role to governments in the wider political and economic management of Economic and Monetary Union (Emu).

Diplomatic efforts were under way yesterday to find a com-promise. The EU Commission President, Jacques Santer, will visit Paris tomorrow to offer Mr Jospm a stop-gap resolution, or statement at the Amsterdam summit next week. This would promise future negotiations on the signing, due next week, of a the broader, political management of Emu in return for an



immediate signing of the Stability Pact.
First signs were not good. The Minister for European affairs, Pierre Moscovici, said

yesterday that Paris wanted a

real delay", and a proper ne-

pact. "Two paragraphs in a res-olution will not do," be said. It is evident that the new gov-

ernment in Paris is desperate to avoid allowing the dispute to damage or destroy plans to

gotiation before it signed the launch Emu by 1999. Bonn also seems anxious to avoid a confrontation. But domestic political pressures are threatening to cause the most serious public row for 15 years between the two

what he regarded as a simple The long-scheduled Franco-

German summit in Poitiers on Friday may now turn into a significant battle of wills on the future direction of Emu - and the EU. Such Franco-German gatherings have a habit of producing unexpected agreements from thin air. But with President Chirac now aligned on the German side, the meeting could be

unpredictable and explosive. The present dispute seems to be partly an accident, caused by the naïvety of the new French administration and the extreme sensitivities in Bonn following the Kohl government's bumil-iating defeat by the Bundesbank last week in its attempt to revalue German gold reserves.

Mr Jospin bas apparently been taken aback by the sever-

cosmetic and administrative: delay. French socialists see their request for an economic and political pole" in Emu policymaking as the minimum they need to fulfil their vague campaign promises to steer Emu towards growth and job-creation. Mr Strauss-Kahn, the finance minister, stressed be was not seeking to abandon, or even re-negotiate, the stability pact, even though it was once described by Mr. Jospin as an 'absurd" concession to Bonn.

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The German government suspects the French may take the pact hostage. They fear Paris will refuse to sign it until it wins concessions on EU job-creation programmes, such as the large transport schemes twice blocked

Santer tries to whip French into line

Hopes look slim for a deal on stability pact, writes Sarah Helm in Brussels

In a burried attempt to secure However, economists question how rules and sanctions could troversial "stability pact" for the be so easily applied to countries the single currency, Jacques Santer, the European Com-mission President, will bold emergency talks with French leaders tomorrow in Paris.

However, there appears to be only slim bope that a deal can be brokered in time for the Amsterdam summit next week, when the pact was to have been

The current terms of the stability pact bave taken nearly two years to formulate and are unlikely to be rewritten in a few days. The pact was finalised in outline during tough bargaining between Germany and the previous French government at the Dublin summit in December.

The driving force of the pact, terms for which were originally tabled by Germany, is to ensure strict fiscal discipline between member states who join the euro zone.

The German intention has always been to ensure the permanent elimination of structural budget deficits. The method Bonn chose to apply under the pact was a system of sanctions to be imposed against backsliders. France has always baulked at the severity of the sanctions demanded by Germany and succeeded in diluting the terms in Dublin, when the deal was renamed a "stability

and growth" pact.
The present rules state that any country which allows its budget deficit to exceed 3 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) after joining the euro zone will be liable to a sliding scale of fines to be imposed by other member states, on advice from the Commission. The maximum fine which can be imposed amounts to half a per cent of that country's GDP. If the country does not correct its deficit, the money is distributed among the other euro members.

cumstances" can the sanctions be set aside. Such exceptional circumstances can be a natural disaster or a serious recession. Mr Jospin now appears to favour transforming the pact into a "pact for jobs" as well as

Only in "exceptional cir-

which do not meet employment targets.

Underlying French complaints about the pact is a deeper concern about bow policies for the euro zone should be formulated. Many observers believe Mr Jospin is holding the stability pact "bostage" to pursue his wider aim of securing a form of economic government. run by politicians rather than central bankers, for the euro. ■ In a frantic effort to qualify for monetary union, the German government was putting the final touches yesterday to a severe austerity package, Imre Karacs writes



Jospin: Wants politicians and not bankers to run the euro.

Resistance by Helmut Kohl's junior coalition partners, the Free Democrats (FDP), appears to have thwarted attempts to raise taxes. Instead, the gov-ernment is preparing to axe welfare projects and launch a hectic

wave of privatisations. This year's budget shortfall is to be made up in part from privatisation revenues and from pruning state spending. Next. year, when the deficit is set to be even higher, the government is considering the abolition of a range of tax

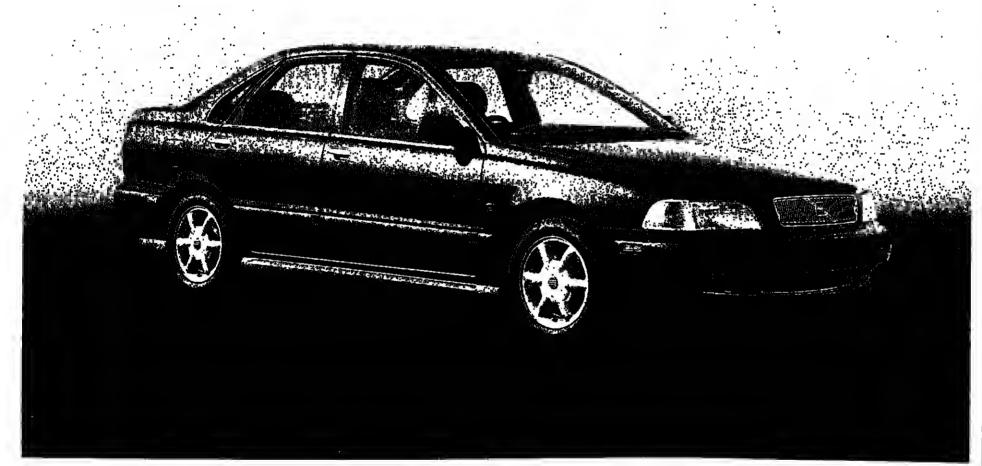
concessions to companies: The contours of the new programme emerged after weeks of haggling between Mr Kobl's Christian Democrats and the Free Democrats. "We are not at the end of the talks but we moving in the right di-rection," said Guido Westera pact for stability and growth. welle, FDP general secretary.

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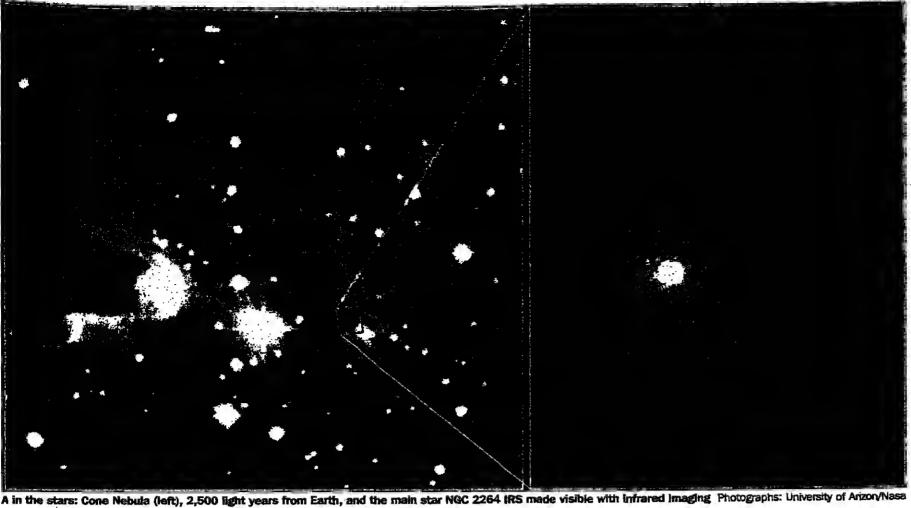
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Six new stars are born amid gas and dust

Science Editor

The right-hand frame here... contains not one star, but seven though the dimmer six are all the offspring of the larger, central one. New pictures from the Hubble space telescope, using its infrared camera, have provided scientists with direct evidence that huge stars can throw off enough dust and gas to create "baby" stars, visible here as the six fainter

dots in the picture. The right-hand frame is an enlargement of a tiny area of the left, which lies in the Cone Nebula, 2,500 light years away from Earth in the constellation Monoceros.

The main star itself is called NGC 2264 IRS, though it cannot be seen in the left-hand picture because of obscuring dust in its path. But with infrared imaging,

Scientists call the starbirth visible here "triggered" star formation, and happens when a gale of high-speed particles from a young, massive star compresses nearby dust and gas until it becomes dense enough to trigger the formation of a star, or stars. Usually stars form by the gradual collection of dust and gas due to gravity, until the combined mass sparks fusion in its core. Normally, individual stars would be many light years away: the nearest to Earth is almost five light years distant. However, these "offspring" stars are just 0.04 to 0.08 light years from the central mother. The pictures were analysed by astronomers at the

University of Arizona and Nasa. The rings around the star are not part of the image, but caused by diffraction effects from the point-like sources of light.

Vaccines tested on Australian orphans



himen pigs: Hundreds of orphans in the State of Victoria were used in medical trials Photograph: Reuters

outcry erupted in Australia terday over revelations that in the E of orphan babies and children were used as inea pigs in experiments on ccines for herpes, whooping ugh, influenza and other disfor 25 years after the Sec-World War.

Former wards of state deanded a judicial inquiry after was disclosed that some of the sts did not work, failed to pass afety tests in animals and aused vomiting, abscesses and ther side-effects in babies. The revelations came in a re-

ort in the Age newspaper of Aelbourne, which outlined sevn separate cases of such experiments taking place in ephanages in Victoria state be-ween 1945 and 1970. The exeriments were conducted nder the auspices of the Waler and Eliza Hall Institute of fedical Research, one of Ausalia's most prestigious reearch institutions, and the commonwealth Serum Laboatories, then a federal govrnment body.

They took place without the onsent of any of the children's arents at a time when orphanges were crowded with state rards under an official policy nat children from poor families nd single parents should be laced under the care of the rate. Such policies continued un-1 the 1970s.

Michael Wooldridge, the fed-ral minister for health, said last ight that the experiments hould never have happened. It said they were conducted acording to the medical ethics of he day and should not be idged by today's standards. We will do everything we can

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to put people's minds at rest."
According to the Age, researchers from the Walter and Eliza Hall institute began work to develop a vaccine against herpes simplex by conducting ex-periments on babies in 1947 at Broadmeadows Babies Home, an institution run by the Roman Catholic Sisters of St Joseph. They chose the state wards because the infectious virus thrived in cramped living conditions and was believed to be "predominantly a disease of the poorer classes". The experiments failed. Some of the vac-

cinated babies caught herpes. In another experiment, researchers from the Commonwealth Serum Laboratory tested combined antigens for whooping cough, diphtheria and tetanus on wards aged between three months and almost three years, from three Melbourne babies' homes. A separate experiment by the

same institution, involving 350 babies, was conducted over three years up to 1970. In this trial, to reduce the side-effects of influenza vaccines in infants, the babies were given full adult doses of the test vaccine.

David Vaux, the Walter and Eliza Hall institute's spokesman said yesterday that medical ethics committees with strict rules for informed consent on such trials had not been "invented at the time.

"There were epidemics at the time of infectious diseases killing large numbers of children, especially at these institutions where conditions were very crowded. The sisters-incharge were desperate to try to prevent their children from dy-Why the experiments on a non-life threatening condition such as herpes? "The authori ties were interested in pre venting children from suffering from herpes," Dr Vaux said.

Former wards who believe they might have been used as guinea pigs are demanding access to their medical records. Heather Bell, a Melbourne woman used in one trial as a baby, and now a spokesperson for a group representing former wards of state, said yesterday: "We want a government inquiry. The government were totally responsible for these children and they used them as guinea pigs. Would you use your chil-dren for medical experiments?



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Woolwich Premier (90 Day Notice)	N/A	3.50%	4.20%	4.80%	5.10%	5.90%††
Nationwide Capitalbuilder 90 Day	4.00%†	4.30%	4.50%	4.80%	5.10%	5.10%
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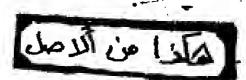
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Hong Kong

US to boycott Swearing-in of China's chosen

Maline Albright, the United Stal Secretary of State, will boyl the ceremonies for in-stall Hong Kong's first postcolcil government in protest agat China's decision to use the casion to install an uncled legislature which will replathe territory's existing eled body.

Governor Chris Patten. saiesterday that he guessed "se other political leaders whielieve in democracy and deferatio institutions will have theme sort of concerns". Hipmments strongly suggest tharitain too will turn its back one swearing-in ceremony wh will shortly follow the 30 Julhandover ceremony to he at ded by world leaders and atlast 40 high-level governm representatives.

is decision adds to the ng feeling that the final day itish rule and the first day hinese rule will not he wout considerable contro-Last week, The Indepenreported that China was to boycott Britain's well parade.

he United States has made that it does not wish to be endorsing or helping to e legitimate the creation of avisional legislature set up hina to replace Hong n's first fully elected Legwe Council.

thad been thought that the 10 or so VIPs invited to obby the handover ceremonies



tutional legality of Peking's hand-picked shadow legislature set to replace a democratically elected assembly upon the 30 June handover of the British colony. Legal experts said the move had little chance of sucin ceremony for the new govern-

nored China's description of the

transition as an internal affair

and is turning China's treatment

of Hong Kong into a litmus test for US-China relations".

■ Hong Kong's Democratie

Party filed a court injunction yesterday to challenge the consti-

cess hut may temporarily block

the Peking-selected chamber

now forced to meet in China.

ment's top officials. However, last month it became known that China also wanted to include a ceremony for members of the Provisional Legislature. This provoked a flurry of diplomatic protests hut China

and the incoming Hong Kong government have made it clear that once a decision had been taken to include the legislature's memhers in the proceedings, it could not changed. This point was emphasised yesterday by Henry Tang, a member of the new government's cubinet. A spokesman for Rita Fan,

the president of the Provisional Legislature, said she was not concerned whether or not Mrs Albright would be present, as the body was set up to serve the people of Hong Kong and so it did not matter whether foreigners approved of it or not. United States China policy

has become increasingly focused on the Hong Kong transition. A recent report by the Hong Kong-based Political and

The last emperor's widow is dead

ner herself an empress, has Por The woman who shared thenal years of the last imbet Lmet of the W dopassed away on Monday. theficial Xinhua news agency anunced yesterday.

was a commoner, not descaled from the "eight major sumes", the families who in imrial China could marry into th imperor's family.

did not meet Pu Yi until af he was finally released by thCommunists in 1959. In 19 be was assigned a job in a mhine repair shop in a Peking benical garden. Li was workiras a nurse in a hospital

Pelg - Li Shuxian, second where he came for treatment wiff China's last emperor but and they married in 1962, when she was 38 and he was 55. Pu Yi died of cancer in 1967, aged 60. The couple had no children. "On 1 May, I and my bride

tle home, and this ordinary home was, to me, something extraordinary," Pu Yi wrote in his autohiography From Emperor to Citizen. It is quite likely these final years were the happiest of his life. Pu Yi married his first wife. Empress Wan Roug when they were hoth 17 hut Wan became an opium addict and died in 1946. Li's death breaks another link with the last members of the Manchu Qing dynasty. which was overthrown in 1911 Obituary, page 22



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New identity: A man reading a form for the new Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) passports yesterday, the first day that application papers were distributed in the colony. It is claimed the passports self-destruct if tampered with

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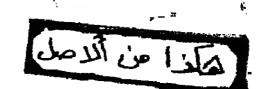
Which is the £143,685 Ferrari and which is the £13,999 Hyundai?

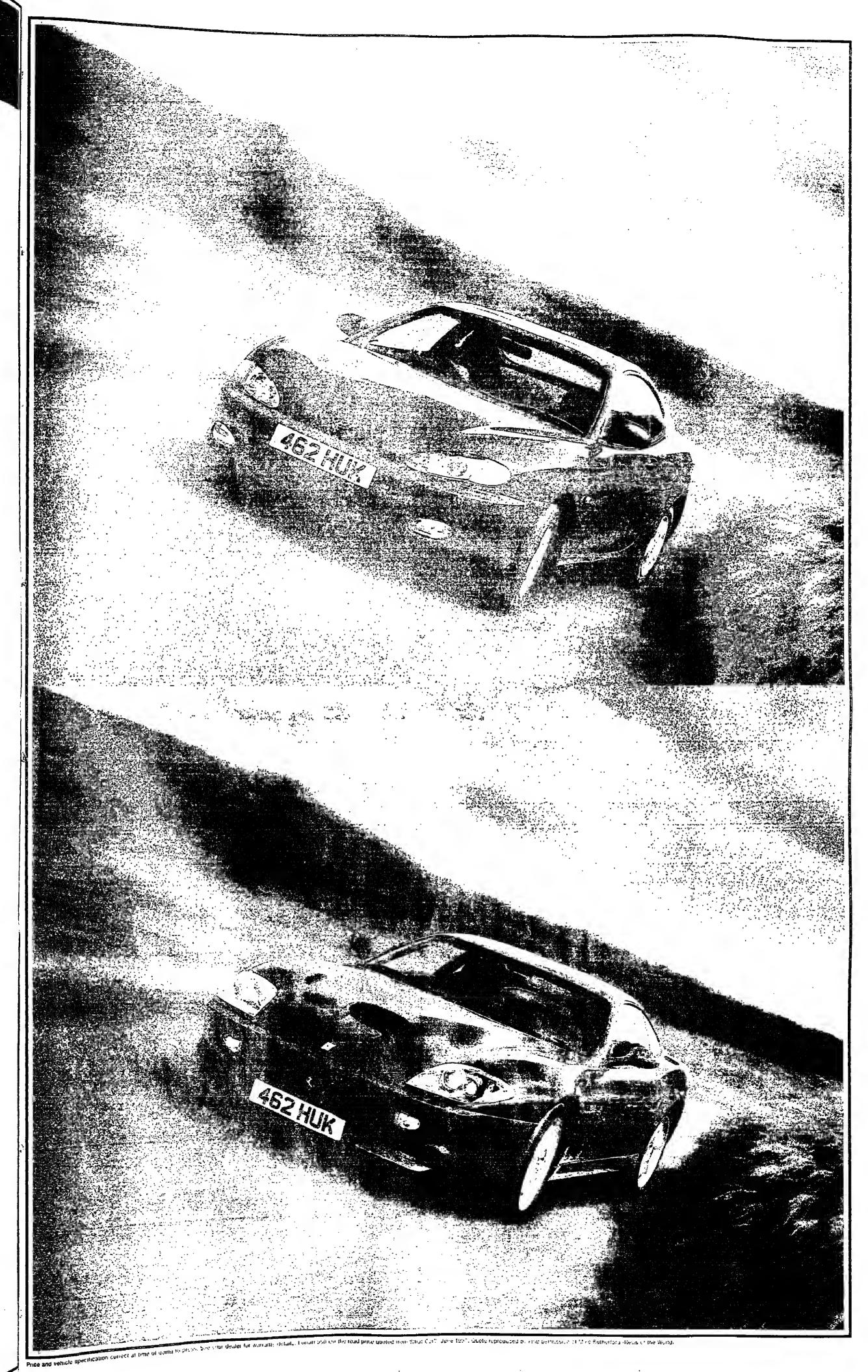
The car at the top of the page is the new Hyundai-Coupe, The car at the bottom is the new 550 Maranello from Ferrari.

Difficult to tell at a quick glance, lan't it? News of the Marki motoring journalist Mike Rutherford even went as far as saying "....the visually challenged Ferrari 550 Maranello will cost a ridioulous £443,066, over ten times the price of the proffler Hyundai Coups." Strong words

Admittedly, the Ferrari is one fine car. ven so, it doesn't have 3 years unlimited mileage warranty, 3 years' Hyune; Assistance and 12 months'-ryad/land is all-included in the price:

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trad licence

Russia: Tale of two countries

Ouestions hang over an economy's success or failure.

Phil Reeves reports from Moscow

He has one of the more soughtafter telephone numbers on the planet, and yet it can be hought. If you have investment dollars - say, \$100m - you too can call President Boris Yeltsin's protege, Boris Nemtsov. The charming but persuasive min-ister would be delighted to help you hack a path through Rus-

sia's jungle of red tape.

That, at any rate, was his mesage to leading husiness executives during a trip to Japan this week. The offer was open to those willing to invest in Russia, said First Deputy Prime Minister Nemtsov. "If you can't reach me at my offices, ring me on my mobile phone," he told them. "If you can't reach me on the mobile, phone me at home."

It was a stunt, but one with a serious element: Russia is still struggling to shake off a post-Soviet depression that has cut its gross national product (GNP) in half, crippled much of its industry, and left millions beneath the poverty line. It desperately needs investors, but it is finding them hard to get.

Yet if the Japanese - and any other foreign investors - are to take up Mr Nemtsov's invitation. a fundamental question must be resolved: are the signs that Russia's economy on the mend to be trusted or is the country sliding further into decline?

could slide slightly further into

the mire. Again, the sulphurous whiff of politics was in the air:

the Kremlin is sparring with a

truculent parliament over the

Yeltsin administration's plans

for budget cuts and a new tax

code. Predicting further gloom

may help pressure deputies to support their line.
What, though, is the truth?
Opinion is divided as never be-

fore. The optimists - notably

Western analysts - point out that

the landscape is more promising

than it has been since the im-

plosion of the Soviet empire.

Boris Yeltsin has recovered from

his illness, and he has thrown

himself into running the coun-

The rouhle is stable, and

strengthening. Inflation is down,

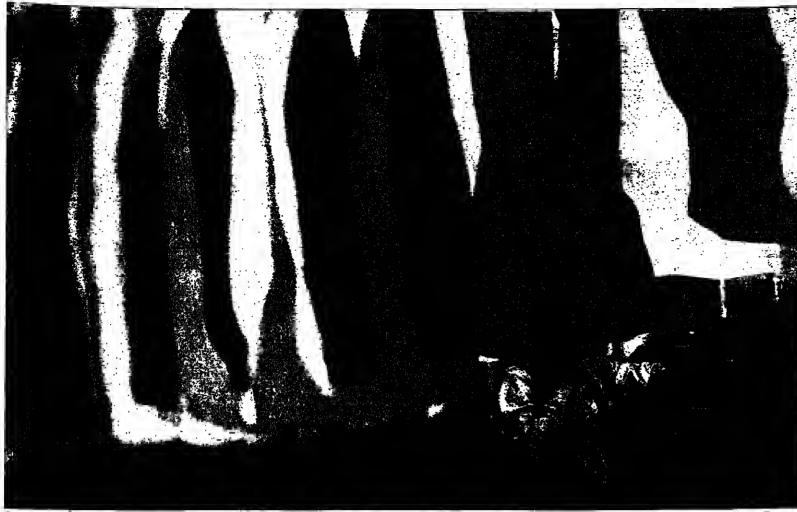
running at under 3 per cent a

month for more than a year.

The cost of government bor-

In the last few weeks, the issue has become the focus of debate, not least because of conflicting government statistics. In January - when President Yeltsin seemed at death's door and the country desperately needed a lift - the State Statistics Committee (Goskomstat) announced that GNP was up by

(1.1 per cent on January last year. The following month the government statisticians detected a similar improvement, reporting an upturn of 0.9 per cent. Both results were achieved by massaging the numbers namely by factoring in a higher figure for the hlack economy this year than last. But Mr try with unexpected energy. Yeltsin felt confident enough to predict 2 per cent growth this year, the first turn-around since the transition to a free market



City boom: A worker adjusts his mask while painting a bridge in Moscow, which is enjoying most of the country's economic growth Photograph: Reuters

This month the government's Winners and losers in the new capitalist era economists changed their minds. There would be no improvement this year after all, they declared; in fact, GNP ners among the growing service industries The list of those in the winners' enclosure (notably telecommunications), and indusin post-Soviet Russia is short, writes Phil

> It is fast becoming an island state, three times richer than the rest of the country. The Muscovites are not entirely alone: at their side stand the "new Russian" beneficiaries of the privatisation process that has produced huge wealth for a small and fre-

quently corrupt minority. There are also win-

rowing has dropped hugely from phenomenally high levels of last year. Foreign direct in-

vestment, though low, is pick-

ing up and foreign portfolio

investment is showing an abrupt

rise. Capital flight - which last

year saw \$2bn a month leave the

country - is ebhing. Real in-

comes rose by 4 per cent in the

Mr Yeltsin has surrounded

first quarter of this year.

Reeves. At the top of the list is the city of

Moscow. While much of the rest of the coun-

try is in the doldrums, the capital is thriv-

ing, buoyed up by a huge black economy.

team of free market economists. His communist and nationalist opponents are not particularly effectual, "The conditions are beginning to emerge for an upturn," said Al Breach, an economist at the Russian European

Centre for Economic Policy.

But predictions of an end to the Russian slump have come and gone before. In October country remain hopelessly 1995, the European develophimself with a sharp young ment organisation OECD fore-

saw growth in Russia for 1996. What happened? The economy contracted by another 6 per cent, propelled off course by Mr Yeltsin's wild election spending spree. While parts of Russia are seeing their fortunes improve, the brunt of this trend is confined to the city of Moscow, and oil-rich areas. Other parts of the

trial sectors - for example, petrochemicals,

es from Murmansk in the west to Vladivos-

tok in the far east: thousands of factories

have long stood idle, with nothing to fill their

place. The largely unreformed agricultural sec-

tor is in disarray. So, too, are government services, the military, coal mining and most heavy

industry, And many millions of Russians are

still waiting for their pay and pensions.

The losers' enclosure is larger and stretch-

and exporters of non-ferrous metals.

Wages and pension arrears

have been steadily rising and now stand at about \$12bn, a crisis deepened by the failure of the government to collect taxes. In the first quarter, it raised just over half of the targeted revenues. Into the mix should be stirred endemic corruption, a lack of laws governing business transactions, tensions between central and regional government, an arcane tax system, and limitless quantities of red tape.

No matter how much mon-ey flows into Moscow, the rest of Russia's 147 million population face more hard times. The government is to reform the domestic housing and energy subsidies by targeting benefits for the genuinely poor - a move that may hring long term ben-efits, but will have the immediate effect of deepening the economic gloom. "Even if the conditions were to improve markedly, you still won't see a lot of investment here. It'll take 20 years to sort out this place, said one Western analyst. "And that's if things go well."

significant shorts

Crucial vote leaves Czech PM hanging on Prime Minister Vaciav Klaus, battling to save the market

reforms he has built since the end of Communism, just survived a vote of confidence in his government.

Deputies voted 101-99 for Mr Klaus. The vote came six hours after Mr Klaus went before the Czech parliament saying he needed its vote to carry through an austerity program. Mr Klaus controls 100 seats in the 200-seat parliament and had to win over independent deputy Jozef Wagner to win. Mr Wagner told parliament he would support Mr Klaus only if the premier promised to put the future privatization of banks and large state-owned

companies before parliament. Arafat arrests suspect killers

Yasser Arafat has ordered the arrest of a Palestinian intelligence officer sought by Israel in the deaths of two Arah land dealers, a security official said. Three Arab land dealers have been killed in the past month, apparently on suspicion they sold land to Jews. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said he had proof the Palestinian Authority was involved in the abductions of the victims and he suspected it was behind the killings.

Prince aids Bulgaria's recovery

Prince Kiril, son of Bulgaria's exiled King Simeon II, arrived in Sofia to advise President Petar Stoyanov on stabilising the economy. Simeon's second son, Kiril Saxe-Cohurg-Gotha, an economist at London-based investment bank Lehman Brothers International, was met at the airport by a small group of royalists with flowers and the traditional welcome girts of bread and sall. Reuter - Sofia

Coup leaders menace media

The military junta in Sierra Leone hinted at a crackdown on the press as it sought to counter reports it had turned to Libya for military support. Declarations read on state-run radio also threatened merchants with "stringent measures" if they did not control prices of food which have soared since the 25 May military coup.

Divers pull ship from the deep

Divers began salvaging a centuries-old Swedish sailing ship yesterday that had been discovered off the former East German coast under the Communist regime but never recovered. Salvage work hegan after barnacies eating away at the 650-year-old wooden ship threatened to destroy the vessel. The ship is believed to have carried limestone slabs to build churches. It is the second oldest ship discovered on the German Baltic coast.

AP - Hiddensee the German Baltic coast.

Safety measure is ear to stay



earrings now dangle from cows' ears in a pilot road-safety project on the Malaysian island of Langkawi. The ear-rings are being tested to see if they reduce traffic accidents caused by cows and buffalo wandering on the roads at night Photograph: AP

elet Europe's

meign policy

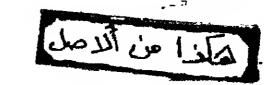
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Why the Tories won't let the best man win

essons one, two and three from yesterday's first-round ballot for the leadership of the Conservative Party are as follows. One, this is no way to elect a party leader; two, this is no way to choose a potential Prime Minister, three, that tells you most of what you need to know about the Tories' parlous condition.

If the Conservatives want to be regarded as a party fit to be elected in the next millennium, then their own internal elections should be a model of democratic propriety. It was perfectly possible to conduct a proper election this time round. All it needed was for John Major to do the decent thing, and hang on for a couple of months longer. The fact that the Opposition would be led for a time by a weakened leader (because he had just heen heavily defeated) is neither here nor there: Tony Blair was so obviously going to dominate the scene for a time that it didn't matter much what happened to the Tories.

Mr Major would have cnahled his party to think a hit longer and harder about its future, and about who might hest lead it.

More important, though, the extra time could have allowed the party to devise new rules which could then be used to elect a new leader in the early autumn. Those rules should have been drawn up to ensure that committed party activists had a vote, along with

other representative arms of the party. Is it not hizarre, really, that a party which spouted so much democratic rhetoric while forcing unions to ballot, and that lambasts Labour for allowing trade unions to play a role in its elections, still cannot bring itself to allow its own members to play a meaningful part in electing its own leader?

All of this is more than passingly significant, since the party would not have got itself into its present mess if it had had the wit to wait. And it is an unholy mess, that's for sure.

Work it through for a moment. Michael Howard, merely by virtue of coming last, is out of the running, even though there is only a palmful of votes between him, Peter Lilley, and John Redwood. Mr Lilley has a problem mustering the right-wing support split between him and his two fellows on that wing of the party, partly because he came fourth, and partly because no one seriously believes that British voters would elect him Prime Minister. Mr Lilley, in fact, has a consistency to his positions, is forthright, cogent, and served well as a cabinet minister, particularly in the difficult job of secretary of state for social security. But he utterly lacks presence, or charisma. There is no winning charm, no ruthless aggression. In fact he does not obviously display any of the personal characteristics that politicians need in some measure. He would appear to voters as a total unknown; worse, he is not



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someone they feel much inclined to get in the limited confines of the parlia-

That leaves John Redwood. His rightwing position is the most intellectually consistent - indeed, it has been the most consistent of all three right-wing candidates, full stop. But he is completely unelectable as a Prime Minister. He is regarded as not being entirely con-nected with reality, and that eventually proves fatal in a politician.

Tory MPs are not wholly daft. They understand all that. And they will look at the arithmetic of yesterday's voting, and realise that none of the rightmentary party. Add the fact that the party outside the Commons firmly rejected all of the right-wingers in the party's consultation exercise, and the conclusion is obvious: it has to be either Kenneth Clarke, or William

If the party were able to behave ratio-nally, there would be no further argument. The constituencies want Ken Clarke. The public wants Ken Clarke. They know he has experience, and that he has the best chance of scoring points across the despatch box and the televi-

also know that the Tory right's obsession with Europe is not mirrored by the public, who think that the party had better get on with the future rather than continue agonising about its past

Probably, however, the party is unable to behave rationally - therefore it will elect William Hague. The reason will principally be a negative one: that the anti-European Tory majority cannot bear the thought of being led by Ken Clarke, the man most clearly identified with the policy (of keeping an open mind on our future in Europe) that they have most despised over recent years. In fact, they will do whatever is necessary to prevent his becoming leader. Mr Hague will therefore almost certainly come through

to win, but by default.

This would be, for the Tories, a lamentable outcome, but in many ways a fitting one. At every turn the above account underlines how confused and defeated the party's condition really is. The best that Conservatives can hope for, if they do indeed elect Mr Hague, is that this untried, inexperienced, notentirely-sure-of-himself man works out a way of remaking his party, and that he can learn leadership skills quickly, and on the run. He has the advantage of time: no one is rushing to hold another general election for a while yet. And his youth itself provides some opportunities, in terms of developing wingers carries sufficient weight, even sion studios against Tony Blair. They appeal. But the party's MPs would be

much wiser to stop looking back, and think about what they really need now. a strong, confident, well-tested leader who can mount an effective opposition and rehuild the Tories' confidence in themselves. They should elect Ken Clarke before it's too late. But they probably won't.

Blair scoops the lottery

Here is a question for people who believe in fairness and social justice. Is it right that someone who buys a house can make a quarter of a million pounds profit in a few years, while someone else who lives a block or two away is unable to accumulate any capital at all? That question is not a dig at the Blairs; they are simply making the kind of casually huge gain that many others do. But the sale highlights a curiosity of British society hig differences in wealth (and thus in comfort and casuring often (and thus in comfort and security) often have more to do with fortuitous house purchase, where you moved and when, than any other factor. Yet politicians rarely contemplate making our housing market more rational, because then the lottery might end. Mr Blair might reflect on the matter as he tucks away his savings for that inevitable (but probably distant) rainy day.

• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

• Get Europe's foreign policy act together

Sir: Whatever the disappointments of the Common Foreign and Security Policy in recent years, viewed in a proper historical perspective, substantial progress is being made. Twenty years ago, Europe's inability to act together in foreign policy was not regarded as surprising or culpable. Ten years ago we felt guilty about our failure. Five years ago aspirations and rhetoric had been developed, but there were no ground rules and no institutions. After Maastricht, we had some mechanisms, but were not good at using them. Most worrying is the impact on the European electorate of our failures in the wars of Yugoslav succession. We raised expectations about our ability to save life and then dashed them.

At the Amsterdam summ meeting we need to learn the essons of past failure. We need a single person to be the face of our foreign policy, working in a stronger "troika". We need better planning. Above all, we need the ability to intervene militarily as a last resort. The policy needs a parliamentary dimension, both national and European.

Such a policy needs to be rooted in public awareness of the need for a common policy capable of responding to global threats. Foremost among these in the coming decades are the impacts of environmental and public health issues on our foreign policy.
Civilisation can drown in the population shifts consequent on environmental disruption. It is anticipated that within 20 years we will see 120 million refugees from the consequences of climate change alone. These are the wretched of the earth" driven north by economic failure, population growth and political collapse. This is a nide of misery that could create terrorist states and semi-states equipped with cheap rocketry and stolen nuclear

The need for a true common foreign and security policy is real and urgent and can be communicated to the people of Europe because the need for it grows from the genuine fears and perceptions of our citizens. It is not a just game for diplomats. It is about trade and jobs, and drought and hurricanes. TOM SPENCER MEP (Surrey. C)

Chairman, Foreign Affairs, Security & Defence Policy Committee of the European Parliament Churt, Surrey

The heavy price of fossil fuels

Sir: The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has advocated an urgent 60 to 80 per cent cut in emissions of greenhouse gases in order to stabilise the Earth's climate. Richard D North ("Campaigners who hlend reason with grandstanding". 5 June) failed to mention this, thus removing the context for Greenpeace's

Using the computer models on which scientists base their predictions of climate change, Greenpeace estimates that no more than 225 billion tonnes of carbon can he burned if global warming is to be limited to an increase of one degree centigrade. (The United Nations Advisory Group on Greenhouse Gasses concluded that temperature



increases beyond IC may lead to extensive ecological damage).
The total amount of fossil fuels currently due to be extracted is 1,000 hillion tonnes, which if hurned would result in an unacceptable temperature rise. But this is only a fraction of the fossil fuels thought to exist in the Earth, a staggering 4,000 hillion tonnes. Regardless of whether the

Atlantic frontier would play only a marginal role in the world demand for oil, the UK should behave responsibly and refrain from exploiting this region for fossil fuels. So far, BP and Shell have paid lip service, but nothing else, to the "dilemma" of exploiting fossil fue reserves. DAVID CROMWELL (former Shell exploration geophysicist) Southampton Green Party

Sir: It is no surprise that the response of world governments to the Earth Summit five years ago has been that of failure.

The seeds of failure were already sown in the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development which maintained that global economic growth was essential to achieve sustainable development. Economic growth, wherever it takes place, is the main cause of global ecological and social crises.

Following the globalisation of world trade as a result of the last General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and the establishment of the World Trade Organisation, large quantities of consumer durables are flooding into Britain and other Western countries. This consumption has involved highly polluting methods of production, mainly in China and other tiger

economies" mainly in South-east Asia. This pollution should be attributed in the British consur

not to the producers. Unless we in the Western world are prepared to adopt a much simpler lifestyle then "Earth Summit conferences will be little more than hot air. MICHAEL THOMAS UK Co-ordinator The Future In Our Hands

New air assault on our ears

Swindon, Willshire

Sir: Polly Toynbee ("What defence toys really cost us", 9 June) questions the Government's unexpected support for the purchase of 232 Eurofighters. The noise of low-flying training causes distress over a wide area of northern England, Wales and Scotland and has now been proved to be capable of irreversibly damaging the hearing of children. So where will the Eurofighter be based? At what levels, over whom, will it be doing its daily work-out? Given the superior

power of this plane's engine, has anyone asked what sort of noise it will produce? Will it be louder than the Tornado, for instance? Why has such a huge strategic decision been taken before the much-vaunted Strategic Defence Review has even started? Submissions from the public to the review need to arrive at the MoD by the end of June. It is time the

many individuals and local groups

concerned with the noise and effect | looks like we will have the political of low-flying left a bit of afterburn CLARETAYLOR

Sir. There was fighter combat in the Gulf war, but it was over very quickly, with few allied casualties In Bosnia the Serb fighters stayed on the ground. Why? Because the American fighters and pilots were vastly superior to the Iraqis and Serbs. Britain's fighters hardly got involved, because their current aircraft, the Tornado F3, badly

needs replacement.
We owe it to our pilots to send them into combat with the best equipment, so they have less chance of being killed. CONOR O'NEILL London SW14

Short's will to beat poverty

Sir. "Elimination not alleviation" of poverty a fantasy? ("The new Joan of Arc?", 7 June.) Certainly not. As long ago as 1977 the US National Academy of Sciences concluded after a major study that "if there is the political will in this country and abroad ... it should be possible to overcome the worst aspects of widespread hunger and malnutrition within one generation". Unicef now says much the same, but with a

timeline of just a decade. As long as Clare Short stays in charge at the Department for International Development, it

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edited for length and clarity. We regret we are unable to acknowledge unpublished letters.

will in at least one of the G7 countries. Only six more to go. London N13

Prescott trips over the dog

Sir: My family would love to do our bit for the environment and go by bus ("I'll get you on the bus, says Prescott", 6 June). Unfortunately, our willingness and money are not sufficient for Stagecoach Red & White in west Gloucestershire. A reasonable service exists and the buses are often nearly empty when we wish to travel, but the company

The problem is our black labrador. He is a dog, and although he is extremely well-behaved the company refuses to give him a ride. We can't leave him at home all day on his own. Rail passengers have a charter, bus passengers need one that sets out minimum standards including carriage of dogs and other things that bus companies may regard as awkward, such as pushchairs, suiteases and folding bicycles. CLIVE MOWFORTH Dursley, Gloucestershire

Sir: The evidence would certainly indicate that curbing car pollution is indeed a vital problem, and Professor Peter Smith (Leners, 4 June) suggests a number of technical fixes to engines and cars which would help to clean up the

has said "No".

air. But even if a "magic" fuel

which produced no emissions were developed tomorrow, millions would still suffer traffic problems.

"Greener" vehicles do nothing to reduce congestion (which costs industry £19bn a year) or to end "rat-running". Pressure for new roads would continue, eating up more countryside and further dividing towns. The noise of roads would continue to hlight homes and enormous amounts of raw materials would continue to be

used in car-building.
Planning to reduce the need to travel and making alternatives attractive and convenient would address all these problems. Now that Cynog Dafis MP has adopted the Road Traffic Reduction Bill we can look forward to debate in Parliament which will give Labour a chance to show if they will reduce all traffic problems by being tough on the cause of the problem - too much traffic. Dr SARAH HILL London E9

Bomber stamp

Sir: Will the Post Office he following up the obnoxious and insensitive depiction of RAF bombers on the new Royal Mail stamps by a series of images showing burning buildings and dead babies? Alternatively, if this is too offensive, perhaps images of Luftwaffe aircraft over London might be a better reminder of what exactly is being commemorated here. In the meantime, could the Post Office explain how we can write to our friends in Dresden? EAMONN MOLLOY NICK HUNT Lonsdale College Lancaster University

Blocked footpaths of old England

Sir: For so long I have read and heard about the rights of every Englishman to walk the public footpaths of the country. I have even been told that there is a watchdog committee which zealously watches over these rights. If this is true, then they need to wake up and pay attention!

Last month I arrived off the plane at Heathrow from LA. picked up my car and headed towards East Anglia. In Suffolk, in the hamlet of Nedging, I stopped by the church, by a public footpath sign, started down it, only to be stopped after 50 yards by a very specific sign which indicated that 1 was about to trespass on private property. So I retreated, only to he told later in the nearby village that I should have heeded the first sign and ignored the second.

The arrogance required to flout enturies-old laws such as beyond my comprehension. I hope that those who are supposedly oversecing these footpaths take the appropriate action on behalf of all those who enjoy the country. Or, if they are still asleep, I hope those citizens of East Anglia who care enough will rise and rectify this act of hiatant arrogance. ROBERT GRABOW Carmel, California,

Long history of honours for sale

Sir: Your leading article "Banish all the dishonourable honours" (5
June) was unfair in accusing David
Lloyd George of introducing
corrupt political honours. Honours
were sold by monarchs and governments from the 17th century. Lloyd George was no worse than his critics, and he was not personally corrupt. Money raised from the sales was placed in the Coalition Liberal and Lloyd George Political Fund - and spent upon political activities. PAUL SMITHERMAN

Charity ruling

Sir: t must correct your education correspondent's report (6 June) about the Charity Commission investigation of the National Confederation of Parent Teacher Associations. It was not "hastily added to the agenda of a top-level Home Office meeting". The conduct of the commission's investigation is entirely a matter for the commission. It was not mentioned at our long prearranged meeting with the Home **RJFRIES**

Chief Charity Commissioner London SW1

Global eruv

Sir: I see the question of the north London env has come up again (Faith & Reason, 31 May; Letters 7 June). Enlarge your thinking and it will be solved. Think about making the enclosed part bigger, with a higger boundary. Make it as hig as the equator and it takes in half the world. Take in even more space, and the boundary has to get smaller. Take in almost the whole surface of the globe, and you can fit your wire ring into someooe's back garden.

Then everybody everywhere can enjoy the benefits of being inside it. J M H WRIGHT

More equality just what the doctor ordered

Health is not only a matter the "food desert". Food deserts, the for the NHS – health was told at a private seminar in London, are those areas it reflects of inner cities where cheap, nutritious food is virtually unobtainable. Car-less resi-dents, unable to reach out-ofhousing. unemployment, town supermarkets, depend on the corner shop where prices are high, products are processed and fresh fruit and poverty. egetables poor or non-existent. Labour is

revisiting the

1980, which

inequalities

Black report of

aimed to reduce

which condemn

It was part of the new minister's preparation for a major speech next month in which she will set out the Government's plans on public health. Among hem is an idea that would, if hacked with sufficient political clout, go beyond anything the Government has so far pledged. It could even change the way we think about health

It is oot that the Govern-ment's early initiatives have lacked impact. The ban on the poor to bad tobacco advertising and sports sponsorship was dramatic and courageous. The promised cuts in NHS paperwork to deliver £100m of savings may be less than a day's revenue for the NHS but an extra £10m here Laurance and there, such as that allocated to breast cancer services, can cut waiting times and

reduce anxiety. Moves to abolish the NHS internal market may happen more slowly than some hoped, hut it is almost certainly wise to allow time for alternative arrangements to be

But this is small beer com-pared to Labour's big idea. Frank Dobson and his team may not succeed in changing much in the NHS - and may end up not wanting to when the results of studies they have launched come in - which means that they need to look to the arena of public health for a fresh approach. They have chosen to re-visit the 1980 Black report oo inequalities in health and set about reducing the health divide between the poor and the rich.

Such an enterprise, if it led to action, could do more than improve the lot of the poor. Commissioned by the last Labour government, Sir Dou-glas Black, the eminent physician who later became president of the Royal College of Physicians, recognised that health could not be compartmeotalised. His report made clear that measures affecting schools, transport, housing, employment and poverty all affect health. A review of the Black report would have implications across government departments - and it is their

agreement to its precise terms that is still awaited.

The original report - a wellthumbed copy of which was produced by Frank Dobson on his first weekend in the health department - made wide-ranging recommendations on how to reduce inequalities in health. Among them was a costly proposal - one of many - to tackle child poverty with a sharp increase in child benefit. The total cost of its proposals was put at £2bn at 1979 prices (equivalent to £5.4bn today)

6 Frank Dobson won a standing ovation from **1,500** nurses despite a grim pay warning 9

with no clear evidence that they would succeed in reducing the health divide.

The Tory government which inherited the report quietly huried it - there was no press conference and only 260 cyclostyled copies were ever printed - hut it is unlikely even a Labour government would have found the means to implement it.

New Lahour, however,

believes there may be a new way of approaching it. At the Royal College of Nursing's annual conference in Harrogate last month, Frank Dobson floated the idea of a new soundbite for the next election - "vote Labour, live longer" and won a standing ovation from 1,500 nurses despite his grim warning on pay. Reducing inequalities, promoting social justice and restoring fairness has been a recurring theme in health ministers' speeches. In Mr Dobson we have a serious, old Labour commitment to tackling injustice and in Ms Jowell, one of Tony Blair's golden wunderkind, a reflection of the new spirit of the socially conscious times.

Ms Jowell, 49, the daughter of a doctor, is fond of citing the statistic which shows that a child born today into social class I (professionals) will on average live seven years longer than one born into social class V (manual workers). While death rates among social class V have remained unchanged over the past 70 years, among those in social class I they have halved. The poor have always died younger than the rich hul the gap is widening.

Her appointment as public health minister raised hopes that the new government would look beyond the NHS to improve the oatioo's health. Ms Jowell, following an initia-tive by Chris Smith, Labour's health secretary until the elec-tion, when he was moved to the heritage department, has now asked Sir Donald Acheson. former government chief medical officer, if he would update the Black report. He has sub-mitted draft terms for a review

and is awaiting the go-ahead. Publication of an updated Black report would be an apt way for the Labour government to mark the NHS's 50th anniversary which falls in July next year - if such a deadline could be met. Sir Donald is known to believe that by focusing on certain "points of intervention", such as in pregnancy and infancy, measures could be taken to alleviate the health disadvantages that the poor

Reviving the Black report is an idea that holds strong appeal for Frank Dobson and Tessa Jowell, who both represent deprived inner London constituencies. Their commitment is shared by the current chief medical officer, Sir Kenneth Calman, who took a calculated political risk hy

addressing a conference on poverty and ill health weeks before the election in which he highlighted the problem of student poverty.

A serious examination of

health inequalities and the measures needed to reduce them could alter the way we think about health. Shifting the focus from the process the treatments that doctors provide - to the outcomes - the number of lives saved or improved - would remind us that the main influences on health lie outside the amhit of medicine and include housing, employment and poverty. The effect would be to displace the NHS from its central role in health care to hecome one organisation among many including government depart-ments, local authorities, schools, employers - with a role to play in improving health.

The process was begun hy the Tory government's Health of the Nation strategy, launched in 1992, which set 27 health targets to be achieved between 1994 and 2005. However, the strategy was fatally undermined in the view of many experts by its failure to acknowledge the impact of poverty. Re-targeting the strat-egy on the social class-based health divide could, if pursued with sufficient vigour, make the Tory NHS reforms seem like a minor management

Adoption of such a strategy would have a further virtue. It would raise a vital question about the NHS - whether all it does is worth doing. The focus on numbers of patients treated, beds occupied and operations performed which has dominated debate about health for the past 18 years could give way to a more mature consideration of the benefits treatment hrings. Securing the future of the NHS is only a part of the task of protecting the nation's

review.

A fried Mars a day keeps the doctor away? In some inner-city areas, cheap, nutritious food is almost unobtainable, the new health minister was told Jeremy Sutton Hibbert A blueprint ahead of its time

he original Black report was published on August Bank holiday, 1980. It was called Report on Inequali-ties in Health Related to Social Class. There was no press conference and only a limited oumber of copies were ever printed. Most people came to know the report through the abridged version by Peter Townsend and Nick Davidsoo originally published by Pelican and re-printed by Penguin in 1992 under the title Inequalities in Health.

A key recommendation was that children of poor families should be given a better start in life, partly through better antenatal care and improved nutrition in pregnancy. Since the report was published evidence has accumulated that poor nutrition in the womh and in the early months of life can have consequences stretching far into later decades. The most controversial

aspect of the report was its link-

ing of ill-health with deprivation rather than with unhealthy behaviour - principally smoking. Sir Douglas Black, who chaired the working party that produced the report, wrote in The Independent in 1993: "Although we considered the significance of various forms of unhealthy behaviour, including smoking we took a view that they were not the major determinant of the relationship hetween deprivation and health. Our view was supported by a study of 17,000 men in varinus grades in the civil service which showed that most ill health was associated with socio-economic status, as measured by grade, rather than unhealthy behaviour. Among

those who had no detectable disease at the beginning of the long-term study, premature death was still more marked

among the lower than the higher grades."
Social problems called for social solutions, Sir Douglas said, Although the NHS could help alleviate ill health it could do nothing about its causes. He wrote: "For a radical cure we must recognise that the direct pursuit of wealth by some leads to unacceptable poverty for many. Unless greed is once again tempered by social compassion, embodied in a revitalised welfare state, so culpahly diminished in the 1980s, we will cootinue in the avoidable waste of human life and health.

In 1995, the Kings Fund, the independent health policy think tank, published its own analysis of the health divide entitled Tackling Inequalities in Health with a foreword by Sir Donald Achesoo, Sir Donald wrote that during his eight years as the government's chief medical officer, from 1983 to 1991, he had become concerned that although the health of the nation overall was improving inequalities between social groups were increasing. He added: "Today the question is not whether these facts are valid hut who cares and what ...

can he done about them." The report made a series of recommendations including greater investment in public housing (to be financed by the abolition of mortgage tax relief), tax changes to alleviate family poverty, increasing the price of cigarettes, targeting of NHS resources to deprived areas, and improvements in childcare.

COUTURE BEAUTÉ

FOR THE BEST-DRESSED FACES



Gerry Adams? Jeeves will deal with him

around in my wallet for some time a cutting from The Daily Telegraph of Friday 27 September 1996, reporting a press conference with Gerry Adams on the occasion of the publication of his book, Before The Dawn. Occasionally I reread it, wondering why I kept it, and always I remember: it's because Gerry Adams, when asked to name his literary influences, mentioned, among other writers, the late PG Wodehnuse.

have been carrying

So, I have been carrying this cutting around with me, wondering how on earth to use such a nugget of information - ie how to effect a rapprochement between two such unlikely bedfellows, when all the time the answer was staring me in the face:

leave it to a computer.

Accordingly, I fed into the mighty computer here at The *independent* as much information as I could muster about Gerry Adams, then as much input as I could muster about PG Wodehouse, and then instructed the machine to produce a story about Gerry Adams in the style of the master. At first the

machine made excuses, then pleaded a headache, hut finally I got it to huckle down to it, and yesterday it came up with this charming tale.

The Irish Cousin I had been invited down for the weekend to Wolfram Towers by my uncle, Lord Wolfram, which was a dashed nuisance, as I had also been invited to a golf party by my old friend Rupert Alihallows Given a choice between the two, only a an idiot or a man with a wooden leg, who fell over when he swung a golf club, would have elected to face Uncle Wilbert over a whole weekend. Or a man who had recently fallen somewhat in love with Uncle Wilbert's lovely daughter,

Kate, as was my case. "What would you do, Jeeves, in such a tricky situation?" I asked my faithful retainer. "That depends, sir,

whether you attach more importance to the heart or to "Eh?"

Sometimes I find it hard to follow Jeeves through the tangled thickets of logic.
"It has always seemed to

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Miles Kington

me, sir, that the art of golf depends entirely on knowing exactly when to unroll the wrists on impact. Not much of a challenge. The art of love is a more exacting game, especially as nobody has yet codified a set of rules."

Even when he explains himself, I seldom know what

he is driving at.
"Besides, sir, our finances are very low at the moment and Lord Wolfram is a very

generous uncle." He had mc there. Sightings of disposable income were currently as rare as snow at

midday in Cairo High Street, and a recent letter from my hank had expressed surprise that they had had to use so much red ink when printing my last statement. A surprised hank is not a happy bank. An unhappy bank will sometimes make life dashed awkward. Uncle Wilbert was,

when in a jolly mood, unquestionably generous. Thus it was that I reluctantly agreed with Jeeves, made my excuses to Rupert Allhallows and found myself on the Friday motoring down to Wolfram Towers.

My sadness at not being on the first tee with Rupert and chums was somewhat assuaged by the sight of Kate coming out on the steps of the stately pile to greet me. Do you know the feeling when your heart turns upside down and gives you a kick in the ribs? It is not unlike

dyspepsia, bul lasts longer. "Hello, Bertie, hnw lovely to see you!" she cried, and before I could tell her how equally lovely it was to see her, she had pulled a chap out of the shadows beside her and said: "Oh, Bertie, do you know Gerry? He is an Irish cousin who has come to stay

the weekend. Mr Adams, do you know Bertie Wooster?"

The specimen to whom I was introduced was a man with spectacles like library windows and a beard that would not have looked out of place on a Russian bear. I took his hand and let it go. "A cousin of whom, may I ask?"

"Oh, just an Irish cousin," he smiled, using one of those smiles which have little light and no warmth.

"Are you interested in pigs?" I asked. "Pigs?" he said. "Lord Wolfram has a

passion for prize pigs, second only to Lord Emsworth's," I said. "This weekend you may find yourself enmeshed in long conversations about pigs. I should be prepared."

"I think you will find I can talk long and hard on any Subject without giving away what I feel or know about it, he said.

"Yes, I've heard you Irish johnnies have the gift of meaningful dialogue," I said, It was a remark which Kate was later to reprimand me for quite severely.

The denouement tomorrow!

The sof factors

The strange case of falling birth rates in the West

here are the children?
President Royal President Yeltsin was recently handed a report that suggested that the Russian population, currently 147.5 million, could fall to about 120 million by 2050. It fell by nearly half-a-miltion last year. The reason is twofold: rising death rates among the middle-aged, particularly men, and a low hirth rate. Russia - as a country, as a culture. as a people - is slowly dying.

as a people - is slowly dying.

But so too is much of continental Europe. While mortality cootinues to fall, the other side of the pincer movement on population, falling birth rates, is more evident in parts of western Europe than it is even in Russia. In castern Europe as a whole, the total fertility rate, that is the numbers of live children that a mother will have during her lifetime, is 1,n, well below the replacement rate of 2.1. But in Germany. Italy and Spain the fertility rate is now down to 1.2 -1.3. So the implications for European population levels are almost as stark as those for Russia. On present UN projections, by 2025 the German population will have fallen from its present 82 million to 76 million, and by 2050 it could be down to 60-65 million.

The UK is in a slightly different position from most of the continent, for we have a slightly higher total fertility rate, I.S. As

nch

a result, the UK population will continue to rise, from 58 million to a peak of just over 61 million in 2025, before falling. It is just about theoretically possible that the population of the UK will be higher than that of Germany in 50-60 years from now.

What is happening here? The phenomenon is particularly marked in continental Europe and in Japan: it is not so evident in the US, or io Canada and Australia. You can, perhaps, explain the low birth rate in Russia and the rest of eastern Europe in terms of the trauma and disruption of the transition from Communism to the market economy. But in prosperous, secure, western Europe? There must be something wrong, hut what it is remains a mystery. We have recently at last begun to consider some of the effects of an ageing population, on public sector pensions, for example; but the reasons, as opposed to the consequences, are hardly discussed outside

the academic world. Demographers and social scientists have put forward a host of possible explanations. There is clearly some association with the rise in job opportunities for women. The greater the chance that women have of earning a good income, the greater the cost of taking some time off to have a family. There may be some lag here in the response of the rest of society. The labour market for womeo has grown faster than the social infrastructure which underpins it: everything from child-care to the willingness of male partners to pitch in with running the home.

The links are immensely complicated, but presumably there is some connection between the set of attitudes that lead to families breaking up and the willingness to have children. Maybe there is something in the assertion that adults have become more selfish, or at least more self-centred, in their choices: that they would prefer the extra money to spend on a boliday, and the extra time, rather than



Hamish McRae

Not having children must represent

some sort of vote of no confidence in the future, but what sort of vote is that?

rely on parents' support for a longer period than they would a generation ago. The amount of parental investment, in both money and time, needed for each child is therefore much greater than it used to be. It is suggested in the US that baying a large family has now become a signal of wealth: it boasts that "we can afford the big bouse, the people mover and the cello

devote it to the extra child.

There are other more practical forces at work. The tax sys-

tem does not help. If a women working from home has some-

one in to belp run the home

office, that can be charged

against tax; but if the person is

in the next-door room helping

to look after the children, it cannot. You think people do not consider tax when they decide about having children?

Not so. One of the reasons wby

the birth rate in Sweden

jumped in the early 1990s was

because the government intro-duced a tax break for mothers

wbo had a third child within a

certain period after the second.

Io the middle 1980s, despite

elaborate state-funded provi-sion for child-care, the Swedish

fertility rate was below the

UK's; now it is above it.

Ecocomists might further
point out that if you regard
children as a luxury consumer

good, they are becoming a rel-

atively more expensive ooe.

That is not just a silly point about the rising cost of pocket

money, designer trainers, dri-

ving lessons or, for those who

pay for it, private education. It is more that the growing specialisation of the job market means that young people are needing longer training and therefore moving into jobs in their twenties rather than their

teens. Result: they inevitably

But it cannot just be economics, can it? The countries with those very low fertility rates - Germany, Italy and Spain - bave seen an enormous increase in wealth over the past generation. Living standards are half as high again as they were in the early 1960s, when birth rates were double the present level. People are bet-ter housed all over Europe, and better fed. The fall in male fertility, however worrying in the long term, has yet to reach a point where it has an impact on birth rates. Not having children must represent some sort of vote of no confidence in the future, but if so, it is very hard to pin down what sort of vote that might be. There is surely less of an immediate fear of nuclear annihilation - that was, after all, in the time of the Cuban missile crisis and the building of the Berlin Wall.

pat explanation for a social phenomenon which cuts across societies as different as Russia, Italy and Japan. But it is not absurd to peer forward into the future and seek some sort of turning point. There is, maybe, one in sight. Fertility rates in the US have riseo from the trough in the 1980s, and they are no longer falling bere. People on both sides of the Atlantic are more confident talking about "family values" (including our new gov-ernment). Will this quest for more order and stability result in a modest rise in the birth rate here, and then maybe in the rest of Europe? I don't know - but I know that it matters more than the political debate about

It would be absurd to try to trot out some

Why can't Labour be positive about blacks?

en years ago today, a small electoral earth-quake shook the House of Commons as four black MPs squeezed into Parliament. Since then another five have joined the original group, but the new Labour government is unlikely to make much of the anniver-

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Things are no better in other parties. Although the Conservatives had the first black minister, Neri Deva, he lost his London seat in May. Worse were the racist jibes that John Taylor, an articulate and thoughtful black barrister, had to face over his sciention to fight the true blue seat of Cheltenham for the Tories in 1992. Chastened by the actions of local activists, John Major elevated Mr Taylor to the

House of Lords.

While the Government has been keen to trumpet the success of all-women shortlists. which saw the number of female Labour MPs leap from 39 before the election to 101 after, Labour officials would rather not explain why the party cannot afford ethnic minorities the same privilege.

In the early Eighties there had been similar calls for positive representation of black candidates. After all, more than five per cent of the population were black; more than 13 per cent of the total Labour vote in 1983 came from ethnic minorities; and yet there were no black

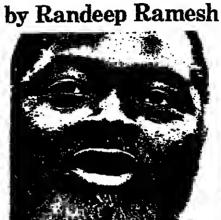
Black Sections, a group first mooted in 1981 to further minority representation within the Labour Party, led the charge. Among its founding members were Diane Abbott, now MP for Hackney North and Stoke Newngton, Paul Boateng, then a fiery left-wing lawyer, and Sbaron Atkin, a party activist.

"It was just a few people talk-ing over a pizza in 1981. We were all talking about getting elected and bow to do it," said Mrs Atkin. Initially the party hierar-chy welcomed the idea. And in 1983, a resolution setting out a framework for the National Executive Committee met with warm words.

We had a found ence in 1984, which was shambolic. You have to remember then there were a lot of competing groups on the left. Militant was a big force with their own black group," says Mrs Atkin. The internal warring spilt out into the open. According to Darcus Howe, who has charted Black Sections' rise and fall, more than 200 people turned up to a heated fringe meeting in 1984. "Fifty of them (were) black. Of the blacks the majority were Militant supporters hos-

tile to the platform." When the shrapnel starting flying, the new leadership team of Nell Kinnock and Roy Hattersley decided to stamp out Black Sections. According to Kalbir Shukra, an academic, in













Major players in the debate over black sections: (clockwise from top left) Keith Vaz, Bernie Grant, Darcus Howe, Paul Boateng, Diane Abbott, and Sharon Atkin

his paper on the group: "They were seen by the Labour leadership as an obstacle to electoral success. Consequently, Kinnock decided to whip the left into line. Black Sections did not escape the onslaught."

The Labour Party leadership

were selected to fight winnable seats - and partly because their constituency parties in Brent and Leicester voted for all-black shortlists. But Mrs Atlan was, predictably, de-selected in 1987 from a safe seat in Nottingham after being goaded - by the left favour of a white woman, and into saying: I do not give a Bernie Grant, the MP for Tot-

Diane Abbott, who has not so politician". "About 7tt per cent mucb courted controversy as married it, is on the NEC-fronically, because of its pro-women hias. Keith Vaz, who was on the shadow front-bench environment team, was passed over in favour of a white woman, and

orisons. These are all concerns

to the ethnic communities and

there must be some way of con-

sidering black viewpoints," says

answer to that question lies with Black Sections. "We now need

to work out a cogent and coher-

ent agenda that can form a basis

power." Others disagree. Mar-

sha Singh, who was elected in

Mr Vaz believes that the

Mr Grant

of my electorate is white, so to represent myself in that way is wrong," he says.

The plodding rise of non-white MPs in the Labour Party

is an uocomfortable reminder that despite its anti-racist rbeturic the party has done little to advance the cause of black power. "We should have about 30 black MPs," says Navendra Makanji, a Labour councillor in Haringev. "I think it will happen. The party already has 400 black councillors and I think the push

will come from the grass roots.

Many say this is optimistic.

Where black groups have flourisbed, they have been squashed. Hundreds of Asian Labour Party members are still suspended in Birmingham's Sparkbrook and Small Heath, Ladyconstituencies.

The last remnants of Black Sections can be found to the Black Socialist Society. If its roll exceeds 2,500, a black person is guaranteed a place on the NEC. Its membership after five years stands in the hundreds. Paradoxically, Labour is keen to promote itself as a broad church. There is a youth wing, women's groups, and even Paole Zion for

After all-women shortlists, the privilege should be extended to ethnic minorities

"based on race". Mr Hattersley, then deputy leader, who relied on a big black vote to keep his Birmingham seat, was accused by Mrs Aikin of having a "patrotude" towards black people. "Black people will not sit idly by and deliver up their vote time and again to a party which is not prepared to give them any-

thing," she threatened.
The leadership took its revenge. The NEC that year refused to endorse Russell Profitt, a black Labour Party worker, as prospective candidate for Lewisham East because the constituency party had voted for an all-black shortlist.

There was genuine concern that by positively discriminating in favour of black people we would lose the support of whites -cspecially the working classes." said one senior Labour official. However Paul Boateng and Keith Vaz, a 30-year-old lawyer,

damn about Neil Kinnock and tenham, has never been asked to

a racist Labour Party."

That was the beginning of the end for Black Sections. None of the other prospective MPs –

Beautiful and the discussion of the content of the other prospective MPs –

The other prospective MPs – , Andout, vaz and Bernie Grant - stood up to the leadership over the Atkin affair. The four candidates concen-

trated on winning seats and Mr Kinnock even elaimed credit for the new black members. "(We can) begin to have a mul-tiracial parliament to reflect a multiracial society," he told the party's 1987 conference.

Once in office, all four took very different paths to power. Paul Boateng, who on being elected had made a passionate speecb which included the memorable line "Brent South today, Soweto tomorrow", is the most successful. He is now the most iunior member of the five-strong health ministerial team, after years spent shadowing the Solic-

for a dialogue with those in Jewish members - but still no Bradford West this year, does not consider himself a "black pew for black people.

Blair could lead in Europe. Will he?

The government has the political power to transform the EU, but doesn't know what to use its power for

Andrew

Marr

influence on putting it back on course: in the jittery, confused atmosphere after the French ebange of policy and Chancellor Kohl's defeat by the Bundesbank, just imagine the effect of a elear, pro-EMU statement by Tony Blair. He wants to be a leader in Europe. If he stood

up now, over the next few days, and spoke out strongly for monetary union, be would he an instant bero in Brussels, and perbaps bave great influence over the terms on which monetary union then advanced. Good idea? Alternatively, imagine what John Major would

have done with the mayhem. He would have been gloating over the French revolt, and noting that the Bundesbank was nearer to German popular opinion than Kohl. It is hard to imagine a Tory administration living through the past few days without declaring openly against the single currency. That would have gone down well at home. It still would, if Tony Blair acted similarly: Britain vindicated! Good idea?

The Prime Minister has resisted both temptations. He still believes monetary union will happen, and is prepared for Britain to enter on the second wave. It would, perhaps, be odd if he suddenly emerged now as the defender of the euro, having been so cautious before. He is watching - not gloating, but not helping, either. He is standing by as Europe's pet project goes into purple-faced seizure. Thou shalt not kill; but need'st not strive/Officiously, to keep alive."

This is perfectly sensible, given the seriousness of the Continental crisis. In a way, both Jospin's evictory, with its anti-austerity rhetoric, and the Bundesbank's hrutal defeat of Kohl, were oldfashioned and powerful expressions of French and German national identity, outbursts against

final integration, one with another. The French socialists' demands for an expansionist "European economic government", and the inclusion of Spain and Italy in the first wave

It was never true that Britain could stop, or even much disrupt, the single currency. But it is now true that Britain could bave a big Mcditerranean bloc, that terrifies the Germans. man government to fiddle its way intu the Manstricht conditions was a defence of the virtuous D-mark, the key symbol of post-war German identity, against the uopopular, polygiot euro. Given the angst on both sides,

it is bardly surprising that Blair has not leapt to defend EMU: why sprint to catch a train that may be just about to crash off the This means, however, that he will not be an important voice in the most important debate confronting Europe. He will not seize the opportunity to help bury mon-

etary union, or to save it. So how will he lead? After all, on the face of it, he has a wonderful opportunity to do so. Whereas Major was seen as a loser who had no deep sympathy for the EU, and whose party was divided, Blair still has the rosy glow of victory on him. His huge

majority and his disciplined party he will be in power for a long time. They are well aware that a dangerous gap has opened up between Europe's political leadership and its people - and perhaps this man has ideas on how to close it? In sum, what Blair says will be lis-

Yet on the three key areas where Labour says it wants progress in Europe - labour-market flexibility, expansion to the east, and the completion of the single market -you could hardly put a cig-arette paper (to use the previous prime minister's phrase) between triumphant Blair in June

pushy and optimistic on the jobs front than his predecessor, who suffered from the general dis-regard felt for his government. He and Blair are eotirely right about the importance of jobs, and flexible labour markets, and the need for our European time zone to compete effectively with the American and Asian time zones.

But there is a long way to go. If the New
Labour approach is to mean any-

thing more than Thatcherism with a different rectorical twist. it will require bigger investment in retraining and education than anyone is yet committed to. And retraining alone will not save the EU if monetary union falls apart There needs to be a political agenda, 100.

At the coming Amsterdam summit it is bard to see any huge difference in the British positions caused by the general election. The tough anti-federalist lines on border controls, policing, defence and so on will seem familiar to other European governments indeed, where the approach is different it is because Labour is

taking a harder line than the ram home the message to other EU leaders that Tories. There is a slightly greater openness to qualified majority voting in imimportant areas. and the well-trailed difference over membership of the social chapter, but, in the grand scale of

things, these are footling.
This adds up, doesn't it, to a new government which wants to transform our relations with the rest of the EU, and has the political power to do so; but which doesn't yet know what to use its power for. There is a disjuncture between Blair's European stature and Blair's current European agenda.

No one in Downing Street will be much worand hapless Major in April.

True, Gordon Brown has been more vigorous, readers that he would patriotically stand up to could that he?

nasty European federalists would be content tu return from Amsterdam with assurances on borders and defence, and a few concessions on majority voting in abstruse areas. But the opportunities for a new era in British relations with the Contineot are far greater than that.

Above all, whether the Euro goes ahead or oot, Europe badly needs some radical political rethinking. Tony Blair was elected on a platform which stressed inclusion and jobs, and he has taken that message to other EU countries whose leaderships are far less popular, and who are therefore interested in his message. But be was also elected un a programme of democratic reform. Wouldn't it be right, too, to turn that agenda on a European audience?

Yes, they have PR and we don't. Most other countries are already less centralised than Britain. None of them has a hereditary chamber. That is the unfinished business of Britain

But Europe needs reform, too. I don't believe the EU can survive without a simpler, more understandable and responsive political system. How can the rambling. Byzantine hierarchy of committees and acronyms, accumulated over decades of deals and compromises, be compatible with popular consent? We need an open, public Council of Ministers, a reined-in Commission, and even a European constitution, which makes clear the limits to "ever-closer union". What we don't understand, we will end

If EMU goes ahead, European political reform will become essential. If EMU collapses, it will be the only alternative agenda left for a traumatised Union. Yet no mainstream leader is seriously discussing it: virtually no work has been done on it; barely a single speech has touched on it. Europe desperately needs somebody with the confidence and power to grab this agenda - someone who is going to be around for a while, and has courage and vision. Now, who

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Li Shuxian

peror" of China, immortalised (with some of his character traits deliberately overlooked) in Bernardo Bertolucci's Oscarwinning film, The Last Emperor (1987).

Though she prohably knew him better than any of his contemporaries, she did not know him all that long: they met and married in 1962. Five years later, at the height of the Cultur-al Revotution. Pu Yi died of lung cancer.

It was said that Chou En-lai himself, fascinated by Pu Yi's "born-again" Maoist faith after his ttl-year detention in Fushun "re-education centre", encouraged the match. Chou, himself from an aristocratic mandarin family, had taken an interest in Pu Yi ever since Stalin had handed him back to the Communist Chinese in 1950.

Prior to that Pu Yi, the puppet emperor of Japanese-run Manchuria, had been living under comfortable detention in a commandeered spa near Khaharovsk - atong with a handful of senior officials and generals who had collaborated with Japan.

Characteristically Pu Yi had abandoned his then wife, Elizabeth, and his teenage concuhine, in Manchuria soon after Emperor Hirohito's historic speech ("the war situation had developed, not necessarily to our advantage") marking the end of the Second World War, following the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings. In August 1945 the Japanese had tried their best to smuggle Pu Yi out of Manchuria but he was still on the tarmac at Mukden, waiting for a plane, when Russian paratroopers landed there and ar-

Chou En-lai took a personal interest in Pu Yi and monitored his progress. As the last Chinese emperor (even if he

Li Shuxian was the widow of Pu Yi epitomised the evil "old Aisin Goro Pu Yi, the "last em- society" and his transformation into an exemplary Communist citizen demonstrated the superiority of the Chinese revolutionary system.

> servility on Pu Yi's part. Significantly, "Big Li", Pu Yi's personal servant from 1924 until the year of his release from re-education camp believed, when I met him, that Pu Yi was a "professional survivor" and that his ostentatious humility in the last years of his life was en-

tirely contrived. Li Shuxian, a hospital nurse, was related to one of the puppet Manchurian generals who had kept Pu Yi company in Fushun. When they married, Pu Yi was, officially, employed as a gardener at the Peking Botan-ical Gardens. In fact this sinecure, provided thanks to Chou, only lasted three years, during which time he did very

little actual gardening.

He was then given another sinecure, as an archivist in the China People's Political and Consultative Committee - and would in all likelihood, had he lived, have become a member of this organisation (Pu Yi's brother Pu Chie was appointed a member in 1980).

At least once a year, Chou En-lai invited Pu Yi and Li over to dinner. He also saw to it they got privileged accommodation in a modern building. Pu Chie lived in unusual privacy in a small hut comfortably traditional house in a central Peking hutung (alley).
According to Li Wenda, the 8th Army veteran and ex-editor

who "ghosted" Pu Yi's autohiography (From Emperor to Cit-izen, published 1964), the last four years of Pu Yi's life were not specially happy. "His wife was a shrew," he told me. "She nagged him ceaselessly." If so,

she may have been exacting some form of revenge on the child concubines who had been so ill-treated by him in his puppet emperor days.

Whatever his ambiguous sexry with an obviously sympathetic hiast there are no hints of brainwashing nor of southern the storage of the st washing nor of any time-serving prematurely, caricaturally, absent-minded and his years in Fushun had not enabled him to look after himself. For all his bumility, he still expected to be waited on hand and foot, and, in Li Wenda's words, "had a genius for creating an instant, dis-

orderly mess around him".

The first hint of Li's displeasure came a year after my book,

The Last Emperor (1987), was published. She wrote to me, in English, from Shanghai, where she was then working as a nurse in a hospital, asking why I had not bothered to get in touch with her while researching the book. I wrote back saying I had been told (by the film's pro-duction team) that she had re-fused to collaborate with them. On a subsequent visit to China. I added, I would very much like to meet her, and - in any subsequent printing - rewrite my fi-nal chapter, if indeed I had been unfair to her.

There was no reply, hut a year later, out of the blue, she sued me under French law for making "false allegations" about her husband, also demanding substantial financial damages. Court proceedings dragged on and on: she lost in one court, appealed and lost again. Perhaps she idealised her relationship with Pu Yi after his death. Those who knew her, and whose notarised testimony turned out to be crucial to the lawsuit's outcome, think not. "She only wanted money," they said.

Edward Behr Li Shudan: born 1924; married



1962 Alsin Goro Pu Yi (died 1967); died Peking 10 June 1997. Li standing beside her husband's tomb, on the outskirts of Peking, 1996

Photograph: AFF

Esmé, Countess of Carlisle

1947, that she became the sec-



Carlisle: 'special duties' Photograph: Desmond O'Neill

Esmé, Countess of Carlisle was the epitome of that vanishing breed, the aristocratic lady who considered it no more than her duty to devote her life to the serto strive for high office, or high-profile appointments, in order to do so.

She was born into a tradition of service. Her father, Charles Iredell, was a distinguished physician at Guy's Hospital, cer studies. Her early years were speut in the gracious surroundings of Regent's Park, in a London which, in 1914, the year she was born, had but lately left behind the standards and the certainties of Edwardian England.

Esmé never left them behind. Reference books record her

education, laconically, as "St Paul's School, University of London", disguising the fact that she graduated from Bed-ford College with an excellent vice of others, yet would have First in Italian language and lit-considered it just a little vulgar erature, which she put to good use in her Civil Service career.

Between 1936 and 1944 she was assigned to "special duties" in London, Aden, Athens, Cairo, Algiers and Rome, which she later made politely clear to friends and colleagues it was however, reason to believe that they included work for MI6, monitoring German broadcasts in Italian to Mediterranean countries at a crucial period of the Second World War, and that she was not unconnected with the sinking of German ships in Piraeus during the invasion of Greece.

Carlisle, and, until his death in 1963, she looked after her family, and assisted him in running the affairs of the Howard estate. in London and at Naworth Castle in Cumberland. It is entirely characteristic of her mode of life that every day, unless they were "sore let or hindered", the two hours before dinner works of English or European literature. Standards must be

maintained. She joined the staff of the seums and Galleries (now the Museums and Galleries Commission) in 1971, and worked as a consultant and assistant to it until her retirement in 1986. During that period the com-

It was just after the war, in mission published a number of advisory reports for Governond wife of the 11th Earl of ment - on Conservation, Museums in Wales, in Northern Ireland, on a National Framework for Museums, and various commissioners were credited with authorship. In fact, most of them were

written by Lady Carlisle, and they are models of fine English prose. She also wrote a scholarly and generous History of the were devoted to the reading of Commission itself, of which it was said that "she dipped her pen in the milk of human kindness". But she was by no means simply a scribe. Few knew that Standing Commission on Mu- at the age of about 60 she took up ski-ing, or that she was an expert on Italian wines, capable of holding her own in conversations with her friend the late Cyril Ray.

In retirement at Duns Tew in

Oxfordshire she devoted herself to her garden and her family, her daughter Lady Susan de Meyer, and her deeply adored but firmly supervised grandchildren. Alexander and Flora. Esmé Carlisle was beautiful, elegant, high-principled, piercingly intelligent, yet the servant of her country in many different ways. The term noblesse oblige might have been coined

Esme Mary Shrubb Iredell, public servant: born 7 February 1914: secretary to Working Parties, Museums and Galleries Commission 1971-86, acting secretary to the Commission 1976; married 1947, George, 11th Earl of Carlisle (died 1963; one daughter); died Adderbury: Oxfordshire 4 June

Jacques Canetti

Marlene Dietrich had always refused to cut a record in French, until she had the good luck to encounter in Paris a great discoverer of musical talents, Jacques Canetti.

He was a younger brother of Elias Canetti, the Nobel prizewinner for literature in 1981. But while Elias went on to to make a name as a writer in Austria, Germany and Britain, Jacques made his way from their home-town. Ruse in Bulgaria, to Paris, where he specialised in German studies at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes Commerciales. After graduation, he entered the recording company Polydor in 1931, where he began by sticking "labels with a hole" on the records, a task requiring more delicate preci-sion than might at first he

supposed.

It was while engaged on this humble task that he met Dietrich and charmed her into making her first record entirely in French. He was promoted, organised sessions of le jazz-hot on the radio, and produced the first concerts by Duke Ellington and Louis Armstrong in Paris. But he also directed the recordings for Ravel's Quatuor and Alban Berg's Suite Lyrique by the string quartet Galimir.
In 1936 Canetti became artis-

tic director at Radio-Cité, determined to promote hoth classical music and jazz. His popular programme Le Music-hall des Jeunes was the first audience-participation venture on French radio, in which young talents were displayed and listeners were encouraged 10 phone in their votes for the best

Canetti's first discovery in this way was Agnès Capri, a pupil of both Charles Dullin at the Atelier and of the Schola Cantorum. The switchhoard was flooded when Edith Piaf made her first transmission. He signed her up, and followed her with Charles Trenet and Lucienne Delyle, later famous for her nostalgic Parisian chansons like "Sur les quais du vieux

Canetti's enthusiasm for hot jazz as well as chanson led him to start writing for the British weekly the Melody Maker and to organise tours of Hot Jazz stars all over the United Kingdom. It was he who first introduced to Europe Cah Calloway and all the leading jazz instrumentalists and singers of the pre-war period. He became known as the Impresario of the Immortals.

With the outhreak of war, Jacques Canetti hecame director of programmes at Radio-France Alger, and formed his first company of actors and chanson singers that toured all over North Africa and the Mid-

dle East. Among his stars were the great actress Françoise Rosay and the comedian Pierre Dac. On his return to France in 1947, he started the Théatre des Trois Baudets, a celebrated launching-pad for young singers in Pigalie. He began to spe-cialise in the direction of "author-composer-interpreter" performances, most of them signed up by him for Polydor-Philips, of which he became artistic director.

It was at Les Trois Bandets that I heard my first chanson stars in the late 1940s -Georges Brassens, Jacques Brel, Serge Gainsbourg, Juliette
Gréco, Guy Béart, Jacqueline
François, Felix Leclere from
Canada. Other now-familiar names who appeared in that caharel before il closed down, to my chagrin, m 1960, wer Léo Ferré, Les Frères Jacques. Michel Legrand, Mouloudji and Henri Salvador.

Canetti appears in books by or about some of these artists - in Juliette Gréco's thirdperson autobiography Injube, in Philippe Boggio's immense bi-ography of Boris Vian, in Jackie Berroyer's Rock 'n' Roll-el-chocolat blanc (with a richly ec-centric portrait of the mayerick Jacques Higelin, whose 12 Chansons d'avant le déluge was produced by Canetti) and many

Canetti, volatile and hyperactive, found he could no longer bear the restraints of Polydor and Philips, so he set up his own recording company in 1963, for which he produced Jeanne Moreau's first records, and the early work of Serge Reggiani, who is still making the best of an almost extinct voice on Pascal Sevran's afternoon television. show La Chance aux Chan-sons, in films directed by his son. and in all the leading music-halls of France.

Canetti founded his Disques Canetti in order to accommodate such unclassifiable artists of the chanson as Simone Signature and Boris Vian. He had an uncanny flair for detecting hidden talent, and, once dis-covered, he never let them down. Cora Vaucaire said of him: "He never treated artists as if they were consumer products." He encouraged them develop their gifts and personalities, and consoled them when they flopped or had stage-fright. He also managed the careers of Maurice Chevalier and Yves Montand, organising highly successful tours for them both in France and abroad.

His memoirs. On cherche eune homme aimant la musique [1978], are full of fascinating stories about the famous, and his "discoveries" have heen enshrined in two recent CDs devoted to chanson and com-edy. One of his stars, Guy Beart, paid homage to his impresario thus: "In the field of the chanson, he merited the same honours as his hrother had won for literature."

Certainly many of the sor promoted by Jacques Cane have become immortal standards of the French - and the international - musical scene. James Kirkup

Jacques Canetti, musical director and impresario: born Ruse, Bulgaria 30 May 1909; died Suresnes (Hauts-de-Seine). France 7 June 1997.

Professor Peter Winch

In his ohituary of Peter Winch [3 June], Anthony Palmer stated that Winch was Professor of Philosophy at King's College London from 1976, writes Paul Thornley. In fact Peter Winch held the (only) chair there throughout my undergraduate study in the Philosophy Department from 1972 to 1975 as well (and had interviewed me for

entry in the autumn of 1971). Palmer expresses very well Winch's insistence that a philosophical study of language must involve an examination of human society (I think he would have preferred "human life"); but he would also insist that an objective study of language (or life or even logic) could not require terms and concepts quite alien

to the context being examined that such an investigation is not tainted by trying to understand the lives of others "from the inside". It is a delusion of language that we can make sense of language "externally", and has nothing to do with the scientist's concern that the observation of a process may interfere with what is being measured.

to Catherine of Aragon, 1509;

Michiel de Ruyter, Dutch naval commander, defealed the English

Admiral George Monck, 1666; the

Covenanters were victorious at the

Battle of Drumciog against the Royal troops under Claverhouse, 1679; James, Duke of Monmouth, landed

at Lyme Regis, Dorset, to seize the British throne. 1685; George II was

proclaimed King of Great Britain,

1727: all members perished in the expedition under Sir John Franklin to find the North West Passage, 1847; the Evening Standard newspaper was first published, 1860; the Norwegian

parliament granted universal suffrage

to women, 1913; the liner Empress of Britain was launched at Clydebank,

1930; the Disarmament Conference

at Geneva ended in failure, 1934; at

the 24-hour motor race at Le Mans,

France, 82 spectators were killed when a car skidded off the track and

exploded, 1955; the first oil from the

British North Sea oillields was

pumped ashore, 1975; the London

production of the musical show Bar-

num opened, 1981. Today is the Feast Day of St Barnabas the Apos-

tie. Saints Felix and Fortunatus, Si Parisius and Si Poula Frasinetti.

I only remember one occasion when Peter Winch expressed any diffidence about his early work The Idea of a Social Science and that was at a seminar outside London. I believe that he saw the seeds of his later work within the hook, however clumsily expressed, and simply wanted to self and his students to follow protect an opportunity for fruit-

Over many years of contact. ful discussion from the stercotypical comments of those who knew nothing else of his writings or teaching.

Within the department he set a very fine example of intellectual honesty, and of taking the subject seriously. When on this home territory, he trusted himwherever the argument went

sive of set positions. He always aimed to do philosophy when giving lectures, not to present finished and polished efforts (and here he gave thanks to the inspiring example of Rush Rhees.

who held a visiting post at the college for some of this period). Professor Winch offered support, encouragement and a

and was not in the least defen- framework of questioning for his students, whose interests were as diverse as the history of art and mathematics. If he had something of a reputation for prickliness in the circles of academic philosophy, we knew that it stemmed entirely from his fierce concern that the subject mattered and should be taken

Demonstrations of erudition and verbal subtlety were not allowed to he passed off as depth of thinking. The gesture with clenched fingers and grinding of teeth with which he would respond to some clumsy (or dextrous) skating across the surface of an important topic was, known to us, affectionately, as

Births, Marriages & Deaths

DEATHS

SKINNER: Edward Jonathan Quentin, suddenly, in London, on 6 June. Much-loved son of Joy and Jimmy Skinner and brother of Catherine, Sarah and Stephen. Memorial service at St Paul's, Knightsbridge, 4pm. Tucsday 1 July. Enquiries to J.H. Kenyon, 0171-229 3810.

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS may be relephoned to 0171-293 2011 or faxed lo 0171-293 2010, and are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette aunouncements must be sub-mitted in writing (or faxed) and are charged at £10 a line, VAT extra.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS
The Queen Mother visits Smithfield Market and has luncheon as Butchens' Hall, London EC! The Princess Royal Patron, Royal College of Anneytheticist, attends the Diplomates Ceremony, to be formally installed as Patron of the College at the Institute of Education, and attendent's visits the Royal College of Anneythetists, London WC; as Chancellor, London University, attended the Shh. Ammersity of the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Charles Clore House, London WC; and, as Patron, Association of Continued Youth and Community Centre, London WC; and as Patron, Association of Continued Youth and Community Centre, Levalon SE, Oricensel Vieth Aid, London SES, and Greenwach Youth Democracy Propert, London SE, Princess Misrgard, Fatron, Northern Ballet Theatre, attending Gells Performance of Discussion at the Grand Theatre, Levi, The Dake of Sent attention a potatic proving of the Grand Theatre, London Wi.

Changing of the Guard The Household Cavairy Mounted Regiment mounts the Outen's Life Guard at House Guards. I Jun Namesen Company Greataker Guards in Mounted December of Country and Country of Country at Hands inglain Palace. I I Mun, band provided by the Scots Guards.

Birthdays

Miss Diana Armfield, pointer, 77; Mr John Aspinall, casino and 200 own-er, 71; Mr James Bostock, painter and engraver, 80; Mr Michael Cacoyannis, film and stage director, 75; Lord Cameron of Lochbroom, a Senator of the Coolege of Justice in Scotland, former Lord Advocate, 66; M Jacques-Yves Cousteau undersea explorer, 87; Miss Lindsey de Paul, singer and composer. 47: Mr John Dyson, cricketer, 43; Sir Anthony Evans, a Lord Justice of Appeal, 63; Sir Marcus Fox, former MP, 70; Mr Athol Fugard, actor, director and playwright, 65; Vice-Admiral Sir Robert Gerken, former chairman, Plymouth Development Corpora-tion, 65; Dame Beryl Grey, former prima ballerina, 70; Mr Dundas Hamilton, former chairman, Wates City of London Properties, 78; Mrs nel Heyhoe Flint, journalist broadcaster and cricketer, 58; Mr Alan Howarth MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary. Education and Employment, 53; Mr Hugh Laurie, actor, 38; Mr Paul Mellon, former president, Washington National Gallery of Art, 90; Mr Michael Meyer, novelist and translator, 76; Miss Jenny Pitman, racehorse trainer, 51; Mr John Shakespeare, diplomat, 67; Mr Jackie Stewart, champion racing driver, 58; Mr Richard Todd, actor, 78; Sir Gerard Vaughan, former government minister, 74; Mr Gene Wilder, actor, 62; General Sir Michael Wilkes, Lieutenant-Governor and Commander-in-Chief,

Anniversaries

Births: Ben Jonson, playwright, 1572; George Withers, poet and pam-phleseer, 1588; John Constable, phileleer, 1588; 1000 Constaute, painter, 1776; Hablot Knight Browne ("Phiz"), artist and illustrator. 1815; Mariano José Maria Bernardo For-tuny, painter, 1838; Carl von Linde, chemist and engineer, 1842; Dame

Lectures millicent Garren Fracett, women's rights campaigner, 1847; Mrs Humphry Ward (Mary Augusta Arnold), novelist, 1851; Richard Strauss, composer, 1864; Bert Lee, National Gallery: Lynda Stephens Pictures in Pictures (ii): follower of Massys, Saint Luke Painting the Uirgin and Child, 1pm. popular composer, 1880. Deaths, James III. King of Scotland, assas-sinated 1488; Sir Kenelm Digby, diplomat and writer, 1665; Clemens Victoria and Albert Museum: David Huckvale, "The Development of Keyboard Instruments", 2.30pm: Gill Saunders. "Public and Private women's lives in 18th-century art". Weazel Lothar, Prince Meneraich-Weazel Lothar, Prince Metternich-Winneburg, statesman, 1859; Sir James Brooke, raja of Sarawak, 1868; King Alexander and Queen Draga of Serbia, assassinated at Belgrade 1903; Sir Frank (François Guillanme) Brangwyn, artist, 1956; John Wayne (Marion Michael Morrison), actor, 1979. On this day: James IV became King of Scotland, 1488; King Henry VIII was married to Catherine of Aragon, 1509; 7.15pm (tickets required).

ry Moore: the release of form from the block". I pm. Institute of Economic Affairs, London SW1: William Braiton, "Zero Tolerance: policing in a free society", 6.30pm. Modern Law Review (hold in th

Tate Gallery: Julie Summers, "Hen-

Shaw Library, Lundon School of Economics, London WC2): Judge Antonio Cassesc, "Reflections on In-ternational Criminal Justice", opm.

Dinners

United Oxford and Cambridge University Club Pieter van der Merwe. Head of Pub um, was the principal speaker at a dinner held yesterday evening at the United Oxford and Cambridge University Club, London SWI. His sub-ject was "Cape St Vincent - Nelson" Patent Bridge". Mr Bruce Williams. Chairman of the Club, presided,

Royal Society of Medicine

Dr Robert Buckman delivered the Royal Society of Medicine's Stevens Lecture for the Laity yesterday evening in the Society's House, Lon-don Wt. on the subject: "Why are we so atraid of canour?" Mr P.H. Schutt. Vice-President of the Society, accompanied by Mrs Schurr, received the grests at a reception and dinner

Delay alone is not reason to refuse relief

Reging v Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, ex parte A; Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Simon Brown, Lord Justice Peter Gibson and Sir lain Glidewell) 16 May 1997

On the hearing of a substantive application for judiciat review here leave had been granted. the court could not refuse relief on the basis of undue delay in bringing the proceedings, in the absence of hardship, prejudice or detriment to the respondent or a third party.

The applicant had applied for compensation to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, claiming that she had been raped and huggered in the course of a burgtary. Her application was refused following an oral hearing. Evidence of a doctor, who had examined the applicant after her complaint was made, was not made available to the Board. Instead the Board relied on the evidence of the police officer who had taken the applicant to the doctor, which was unintentionally

misleading. Leave to move for judicial review was applied for and granted 10 months after the Board had given written reasons for its decision, the doctor's notes having eventually heen obtained. Popplewell J heard the substantive application for judicial review and found that the Board should have adjourned decision at first instance, in R

LAW REPORT 11 June 1997

ohtained. He went on, howev- sion, exp Worth [1985] STC 564, er. to find that there had been undue delay in bringing the LJ in Patterson v London Borproceedings, that there was no good reason for extending time, and that accordingly no relief would he granted. Nicholas Blake QC and Elizabeth Woodcraft (Miller Paris, Worthing) for the applicant: Michael Keut QC

(Treasury Solicitor) for the Board. Lord Justice Simon Brown said that it was sought to impugn the Board's decision on two grounds: that the Board had acted unfairly, first in not of its own initiative obtaining

the doctor's report or ad-

journing so that it could be ob-

tained; and secondly in relying on the police officer's evidence about the medical examination. The first and main issue arising on the appeal was whether, absent hardship, prejudice or detriment, it was open to the court on the hearing of the substantive judicial review motion, for which leave had been granted, to dismiss the challenge on the ground of un-

due delay. That was clearly an issue of considerable general importance, which had only previously been the subject of a

the hearing for the report to be v Tavistock General Commis-

ough of Greenwich (1993) 26 HLR 159.

point was raised at the leave

stage or at the substantive

11 was necessary to keep in mind the two legislative provisions governing delay: RSC Order 52 rute 4, and section 31 198t. Quite different questions arose with regard to detay depending on whether the

hearing.
At the leave stage the queslion was whether there was good reason for extending time and allowing the substantive application to be made. At the substantive hearing, however, the question was whether, in a case where there was initially undue delay, the merits of the challenge should be overriden by the hardship, prejudice or detriment that would result from the grant of relief. It followed that Worth had been

wrongly decided and that Popplewell I had erred in dismissing the present challenge on grounds of delay. Turning to the substantive grounds of the challenge, the applicant's submission that the Board themselves were under

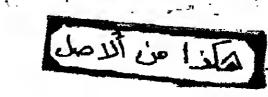
a duty to obtain the doctor's report must be rejected, otherwise such a duty would arise in every sexual case. Equally it was impossible to conclude in the present case that the Board should have adjourned the hearing.

The applicant's second submission was that the present case came within the principle, established in a long line of cases culminating in R. Bolton Justices, ex p Scally [1991] 1 QB of the Supreme Court Act 537, that there might be grounds for judicial review even though there had been no error or misconduct on the part of the tribunal itself, when unfairness in the proceedings resulted from some failure on the prosecutor's part, in the absence of fraud or dishonesty.

It was argued that the police ought to be regarded as acting in relation to the Board's procedures in a role akin to that of a prosecutor before a coventional tribunal. The critical distinction, however, hetween the present case and the Scally cases was in the respective nature of the processes being undertaken.

The applicant had therefore failed to make good either ground of her substantive challenge with the result that her appeal must fail, albeit for very different reasons to those given hy Popplewell J.

Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister



Natior wins on pe Chris Godsmark

71.20

Col Inic

US utility

set to

take over

Energy

Group

Energy Group, the electricity and coal producer that was

demerged from Hanson earli-

er this year, is set to be taken

Stock Exchange last night

Energy Group, which owns Eastern Electricity and the US

coal producer Peabody. dis-

closed that it was in talks that

could lead to a recommended

offer from PacifiCorp at a 20 per

cent premium to yesterday's

the close of the stock market.

was made at the insistence of the

Takeover Panel and followed a

sharp rise in the company's

share price in the last few days.

Energy Group closed 16p up last

Labour Government's attitude

towards a takeover of a regional

electricity company by an over-

Apart from owning Eastern,

Peabody, Energy Group is also

Britain's fourth biggest electricity producer with a 12 per cent share of the generating

PacifiCorp is one of the higgest utilities in the US with a market capitalisation of \$60n (£3.7bn). Based in Portland,

Oregon, it supplies electricity in

seven western states and also

owns a telecoms company, Pacific Telecom, serving 10

states in the west of the US.

make a seventh.

market.

Michael Harrison

business & city

BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

Commercial Union to slash costs by £100m

Financial Editor

Commercial Union unveiled a £100m cost-cutting programme yesterday in a hid to face down direct telephone insurers. Acknowledging that it needed to raise its game in an increas-ingly cut-throat market, the group promised it could push through the improvements with

no compulsory redundancies. Analysts welcomed CU's attempt to catch up with new entrants to the general insurance market but questioned the lack of detail provided by the company. They said management was unclear who would benefit from the cost improvements and said there was a concern that the savings would be eaten up by the lower premiums needed to

maintain market share. The company said yesterday it would deliver "significant added value" but refused to break down how much of the savings would go to customers in the form of better prices, how much would be reinvested in the businesses, and how much shareholders would see in higher

yesterday the measures would slash CU's ratio of expenses to remium income by cutting £40m from the cost of dealing with claims, generating a similar saving from better managethe growing threat from the ment and a further £20m from

more profitable underwriting. He said CU had been working on the programme, dubbed "market orientation", for the past two years. The proposed changes, which would rely on natural wastage to reduce staff numhers, were agreed with unions. About 1,000 of CU's 5,500 staff leave each year.

Analysts said the moves were CU's response to a fast changing insurance market that has seen new entrants such as Direct Line attack the traditional players' markets with the benefit of lower cost bases and more efficient systems,

General insurance, which ineludes commercial, household and car insurance, has seen tough competition for several irs, with insurers desperate to find new ways of winning new customers and squeezing profit from businesses struggling with persistently low premium rates.

The changes, analysts said, reflected a realisation by the in-Peter Rice, a director of the dustry that insurance companies which focus on general insurance arm, said were regarded by the stock of the market.

market as poorly managed businesses and rated accordingly. Although CU is considered to he one of the best managed businesses in the industry, it admitted yesterday that continu-ing to do things in the same way was not an option.

Mr Rice said the £40m of supply chain savings would be achieved by aggregating a series of small changes. These would involve better systems to prevent overpayment of claims, better purchasing of replace-ment goods such as carpets and white goods, and hetter partnership arrangements with loss adjusters. Litigation is to be consolidated into a small number of offices,

He said, however, that there were no plans to copy Royal & Sun Alliance by outsourcing the handling of claims on its household account.

Andy Homer, managing director of the UK general insurance business, added: "We're trying to drive out the wasted cost that's built into an industry that does a lot of its transactions by paper." The reorganisation also еп-

tails changing the head office into nine new business units which focus on different areas



Slipping: Commercial Union has seen tough competition from direct insurers for household business in recent years National Grid | CBI calls for Brown to raise taxes by £2bn

on pensions

wins appeal

The privatised electricity companies breathed a huge sigh of relief yesterday after National Grid and National Power unexpectedly won their appeal against a ruling by the Pensions Ombudsman which would have forced the industry to hand back more than £1bn to its pen-

Chris Godsmark

Business Correspondent

sions funds. The two National Grid pensioners who began the fight over pensions surpluses. David Laws and Reg Mayes, immediately pledged to appeal against the High Court ruling. But it was unclear last night whether Trustees of the Grid's pensions fund would agree to continue funding the pension-

ers through an appeal. Mr Laws said he was "bitterly disappointed" by the ruling of Mr Justice Robert Walker, who argued that the Omhudsman. Dr Julian Farrand, had "misunderstood" the law when he told the Grid to pay back a £46m surplus removed from the fund after a valuation in 1992. The Grid had divided up a £62.3m surplus, giving 30 per cent to pensioners in enhanced benefits and using the rest to fund improved redundancy

If we get funding we'll appeal. The fact the judge has given us leave to appeal says a lot. It's taken us four years to get this far and we've got a good case. It was not right for the Grid to use the surplus as a pot

of gold," Mr Laws said. National Power had joined the case in a pre-emptive move to avoid paying hack about £250m to its fund, part of a £377m surplus identified in 1992 and 1995. Most power companies used surpluses to help pay for hig redundancy

programmes, with National

ruling argued the Grid acted unlawfully in using the sur-plus, a move specifically outlawed by the scheme's rules. But the judge said the Grid's actions were "reasonable and proper", drawing on another paragraph in the rules which said it was the company's responsibility to deal with surpluses.

Mr Justice Walker added: "His directions were, as 1 have held, based on a misunderstanding of the terms of the scheme and of the employer's duties in dealing with surplus."

However, the judge admitted that much of the law on surpluses depended on often subtle wording of scheme rules. Mr Justice Walker said it was of "real public concern" that very large amounts of cash depended on arguments about how many angels can stand on the point of a needle".

Mr Laws and Mr Mayes were partly funded by the scheme's trustees while the Omhudsman declined to appear in court. But both the trustees and electricity unions had supported the company's position. The Grid is now expected to "advise" the irusiees not to pay for an appeal. "It would be illogical. The judgment is quite clear," said a source close the company.

Solicitors for National Power pensioners were also consideriog an appeal. Aogela Dimsdate Gill, from Lovell Whire Durrant, said the ruling went beyond the electricity industry and could be a "green light" to other companies with

Michael Harrison

by a further percentage point to 7.5 per cent unless the Chancellor Gordon Brown increases personal taxes by £2bn in the forthcoming Budget, the Confederaton of British Industry warned yesterday.

Power's workforce dropping from 16,273 in 1991 to 5,139 in that a small fiscal tightening was necessary to keep inflation in lf taxes were increases should not increases should not check but that this should not increases should fall on individbe at the expense of husiness. uals, not husinesses, he said.

Adair Turner, Director-general of the CBI, said that unless Interest rates will need to rise action was taken to slow the growth in spending then the economy risked a return to the "boom and bust" of the past.

"However, we are cautious about relying solely on interest rates to curb demand since that could drive sterling up at In its Budget submission, the a time when the high pound is employers' organisation said already hurting the UK's export

If taxes were to go up, then the

Although an extra penny on tax would raise £2.1bn and be enough to satisfy the CBI, Labour fought the election on a pledge that the basic and higher rate of tax would not go up.

The CBI said the Chancellor would need to look hard at the remaining options - allowances. national insurance. VAT and tobacco.

Chancellor could raise a large amount of the £2hn by limiting personal tax reliefs to the basic rate of tax rather than the

higher rate. The most widely touted corporate tax ebange is a further lition of tax credits on dividends.

But it suggested that the triggering higher dividend payments to tax-exempt funds or in-

creased employer contributions. The CB1 said that, though it remained opposed to the windfall tax because it was retrospective, arhitrary and unfair, it accepted the tax would go restriction on or even the abo- ahead and agreed with the purpose to which the money would excise duties. It opposes any cuts a move that would raise some be put - retraining the long-in hasic tax allowances, the £4bn. But the CBI warned that term unemployed. But it said er duties on petrol, alcohol or for investment and reduce the much would be raised and how

cent at Amersham.

This deal makes a great

should be carnings enhancing. The Pharmacia husiness has 9

per cent margins compared to

There is plenty more fat to go

The details came as Amer

from Pharmacia," he said.

per cent at Amersham.

The US utility was linked with several rumoured takeovers of regional electricity companies during the hid frenzy that has seen most of the sector change ownership in the last two years hut it never actually made an abolition of Miras, reduced re-liefs on PEPs or Tessas and high-as it would be counterproductive the Government must set oul offer. Energy Group was spun off in February - the last of the four actuarial value of pension funds, the tax would be levied. divisions of Hanson to be de-

merged - and is listed in both London and New York. It made nperating profits of £466m on sales of £3.8bn in the year to September 1996. Since the demerger it has acquired the US electricity trad-

ing company Citizens Power, which is hased in Boston, for

PacifiCorp employs 12,000 and earned \$505m in net income on revenues of \$4.3bn in

Talks between the two companies are being led by Energy group's executive chairman, Derek Bonham, and Fred Buckman, president and chief operating officer of PacifiCurp. Energy Group is being advised by Lazards and Morgan Stanley and PacifiCorp's advisers are Goldman Suchs, which advised Eastern on its £2.5hn sale to Hanson in 1995.

Comment, page 25

Amersham to control APB



New job: Bill Castell will

Amersham and Pharmacia & Upjohn, the US-Swiss group,

Sameena Ahmad

yesterday announced the full terms of the merger of their life sciences divisions into the world's higgest hiotechnology supply husiness and have agreed to prepare the joint venture for flotation by 2000. The new husiness, called Amersham Pharmacia Biotech, will have annual sales of £430m. 3.600 staff world-wide and combined research spending of around £40m a year.

News of the deal was welcomed by investors, driving Amersham's shares up by

131.5p to an all-time high of growth markets such as generated fits revenues on administration compared to 42 per sequencing. Amersham at £874m.

Fears that the UK group would not win control of the new company proved groundless. Amersham will own 55 per cent and retains full control of the company's board, with Bill Castell, chief executive, appointed as APB's chairman, and Ron Long, managing director of Amersham Life Sciences, becoming chief executive of the new group. As well as the flotation, Amersham has the option to buy out the remaining stake in the company.

nomics and genc sequencing. He expected to save around £30m in the deal's third year from a 10 per cent cut in the deal of strategic sense and it workforce and reduction in op-erating costs at Pharmacia. He said the deal would be earningsenhancing in its first year.

Analysts were divided about whether the deal would immediately enhance earnings, hut said the strategy was right and the scope for cost savings was substantial. Nigel Barnes at Merrill Lynch said the savings would come through the job cuts and improvement in oper-Mr Castell said the deal gave ating margins at Pharmacia. the group critical mass in high-

sham announced pre-tax profits up 30 per cent to from in the year to the end of March. The increase reflected a sharp rise in healthcare profits as the sale of prostrate cancer products soared. The dividend total is 22p, up 22 per cent.

Midland Bank

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US share surge boosts Footsie

Economics Editor

Share prices in London reached a new peak yesterday following an early surge in shares across the Atlantic. Analysts predicted further advances to come now that the FTSE 100 index has passed the latest psychological harrier of 4,700. It ended nearly 53 points high-

previous all-time high set on 16

May in post-election euphoria.

Monday. The Dow has gained more than 1,000 points this year.

In the US, the Dow Jones inthe CAC 40 index closing 22 dex was 86 points higher at 7,565 points lower at 2,664.18. by late morning, following the new records set on Friday and Wall Street. But he added: "A lot

By contrast, stock markets in continental Europe were quict and flat as investors decided to wait and see what becomes of prospects for the single currency as a result of the new hurdles er at 4.739.6, easily beating the thrown up by the French government this week. Shares in Paris suffered slightly more,

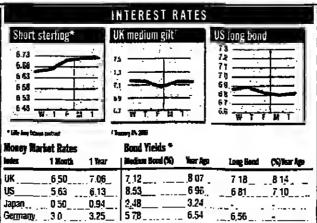
Paul O'Connor, an equity strategist at BZW, said the biggest reason for London's advance yesterday was the rise in

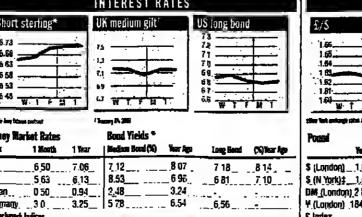
of people are rotating out of the continental European markets, at least in the short term." Wall Street has been boosted hy the diminishing fears that the Federal Reserve will raise interest rates again when it meets in July. In particular,

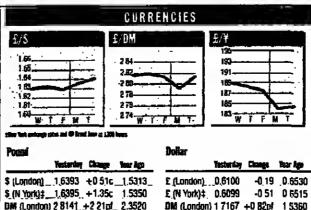
the increase in non-farm employment last month was, at 138,000, far lower than expected. The figures suggested that the US economy is sustaining its astonishing mix of buoyant growth and low inflation.

figures on Friday showed that

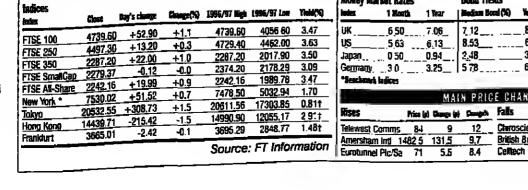
Although Walt Street was the main explanation for yesterday's soaring share prices in London, they are also expected to be supported by this year's huilding society flotations. Market report, page 27



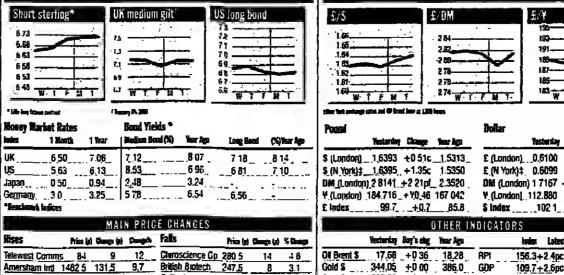




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Of Brent \$	17.68	_+036	18.28	RPI	156.34	-2.4pc	150 9	19 Jun
Gold S	344,05	+0 60	386.0	. GOP	109.7	-2.6pc	107.0	25 Jul
Gold £	209.88	-0.65	251.98	8ase Ra	iles I	5.2 5pc	6.75	-



STOCK MARKETS



Scottish Media buys Grampian for £105m

Cathy Newman

Scottish Media Group yesterday announced a £105m deal to huy Grampian Television, height-ening expectations that the few remaining independent Channel 3 companies, such as HTV. would he taken over before the end of the year.
Scottish, which offered

Grampian shareholders cash or new Scottish Media shares, will make substantial cost savings. City analysts suggested that up to 50 jobs may go from Grampian's workforce of 200.

Scottish would not confirm the number of redundancies and said the formation of a Scottish Parliament would create job opportunities as the company would set up studios in Edinburgh.

Calum MacLeod, non-executive chairman of Grampian, and Donald Waters, chief executive of Grampian, will join the Scottish board. Mr Waters will continue in his current capacity until his retirement at the end of the year. ft is thought he

Scottish is to transfer all its

programme production to Grampian's Aberdeen studios, a move which will cut overheads by reducing the group's de-pendence on freelance and external facilities.

Andrew Flanagan, managing director, said the deal would provide advertising synergies be-tween the two companies. He said: "We needed to get together to compete for adver-tisers on a pan-Scotland basis."

Of the five independently

Owned Channel 3 hroadcasters, Yorkshire-Tyne Tees Television is likely to be swallowed up by Granada Group after the two confirmed on Monday they were in talks about a merger. A deal is expected in a few weeks.

HTV's share price leapt 10p to 316.5p yesterday on City expectations that United News & Media would launch a bid by the end of the year. According to Henderson Crosthwaite, United, which already has a 29 per cent stake in HTV, would pay around 420p a share for the

company.

Lord Hollick's company is forbidden from paying less than that until October, a year after

1997 Independent Channel 3 companies Scottish Media Group (formarly STV) Yorkshire-Tyne Tees Television in taks with Granada Group Cartion: Communications United News & Media Tyse Tees/Yorkshire me Tees/Yorkshire Central HTV Group

How the ITV map has changed since the last franchises were awarded

it upped its stake in HTV at a cost of 420p a share.

United may act swiftly to prevent other predators taking an interest. Although Carlton Communications would have difficulty taking control of HTV while United continues to hold a stake, it has established an ideal platform for a takeover of HTV with its purchase last year of Westcountry Television.

While analysts said United

for too long, they believed it may wait for the Independent Television Commission's decision on licence renewal before swooping. HTV pays the Treasury a hefty annual fee of £22m and is likely to be granted a reduction which would affect its market

could not afford to tread water

Analysis said a purchase of HTV would leave Border Television as easy prey for either

Scottish or Granada, although Mr Flanagan said yesterday Scottish would prefer to expand by acquiring regional newspa-

He said that while Border was "not a perfect hedfellow" and that all ITV companies were "healthily priced", there were significant opportunities in oth-er media markets, and beyond

Derek Terrington, media an-

alyst at Teather & Greenwood, said Scottish was playing down talks of expansion within the terrestrial television sector. "Scottish wants to complete the set

by huying Border," he said.
The Lahour MP for Aberdeen Central, Frank Doran, yesterday urged Margaret Beck-ett, the President of the Board of Trade, to refer the Scottish

Despite a lack of rain and increased water loss through evaporation caused by climat-ic changes, Severn was confident it would not have to impose re-

strictions on water supply. Following the blocking of its hid for South West Water by the Monopolies & Mergers Commission, Severn said it intended to concentrate on a combination of organic growth and small to medium-sized ac-

Jarvis in talks to buy third railway group

Nigel Cope City Correspondent

Jarvis, the construction group which has seen its shares soar following its move into railway maintenance, said yesterday it was in discussions which may or may not lead to a "substantial" acquisition. Though the com-pany declined to identify its target, City speculation settled on Fastline, another railway maintenance company, as the likely

It would be Jarvis's third railway deal in little more than a year. The shares, which rose other 5p higher to 296.5p.
With the acquisition tipped to be worth around £60m-£65m it

would require a major rights is-sue, possibly of around £40m. Jarvis said it hoped to make an

Fastline was formed through a management huy-out 15 months ago from the former British Rail business.

Its acquisition by Jarvis would be seen a positive move for the once-struggling construction

company. Two years ago Jarvis was a struggling loss maker with a share price of just 20p. But its fortunes have been transformed since its £9m acquisition last year of Northern Infrastructure (Nimoo), one of seven husinesses that carries out maintenance contracts for rail network operator Railtrack. Nimco has sales of around £140m largely generated from guaranteed Railtrack contracts. The other infrastructure maintenance companies have been snapped up by the likes of Balfour

Beatty, Amey and Amec, Last month Jarvis paid £4.9m for a half share in Relayfast, the Scottish rail engineering company. It has the rights to buy the other half for £5m. Jarvis made loss of almost £5m in 1994 and profits of just £500,000 the folowing year. In April this year hroker Peel Hunt upgraded its profits forecast for the year to March from £10m to £14.6m.

The transformation has proved a boon for Jarvis shareolders. Last year the company's shares were the second-best performers on the stock market, rising by 506 per cent to 142.5p. The meteoric rise has continued this year, during which time they have already doubled.

The privatisation of British Rail has been fraught with controversy with the government being heavily crincised for selling the various parts too cheap-ly. One of the first examples of this was when Stagecoach, the



J J A S D N D J F M A M J bus and trains group, paid £825m for Porterbrook, the train leasing company which had been bought by its management from the government for £527m just eight months earlier. That deal provided huge windfall gains for directors and the huy-out's major backers,

Charterhouse Bank. Other deals have also proved lucrative. Amec paid £25m for the South West Infrastructure Maintenance Company. Ana-7 lysts expect that deal to provide

profits of £3m-£4m this year. In April Jarvis said its profits for the 15 months to March would "substantially exceed market expectations" thanks to huilding project gains and lower-than-expected rationalisation costs. Its projects include a contract to build a school in Dorset under the government's

Severn to continue rebates despite tax threat

Michael Harrison

Severn Trent, the privatised water company, yesterday rejected the option of making householders pay for the windfall tax, saying it remained com-mitted to "henefit sharing" between customers and share-

The company pledged to continue with its five-year programme of rebates, worth £6.50 a year, irrespective of the levy

to be imposed by the Chancellor, Gordon Brown, in his first Budget next month.

At the same time, Severn Trent said it intended to increase the payout to shareholders by reducing dividend cover to two times earnings. It also con-firmed it would seek authority at its annual meeting next month to complete the buyback of 10 per cent of its shares, having repurchased 5.6 per cent of its share capital last December.

owner of Welsh Water and South Wales Electricity, said it might have to scrap customer rehates and discretionary spending on its network if the

windfall tax was too high. However, Vic Cocker, chief executive of Severn, said yesterday it remained firmly committed to benefit sharing, believing this was in the best interests of shareholders.

He was speaking as Severn

pre-tax profits before exceptional charges last year to £391m and a 13 per cent increase in the dividend for the year to 36.5p. The group also disclosed it had reduced its leakage rates by a third to 16 per cent a year, ahead of the timetable agreed with the in-

dustry regulator, Ofwat. Exceptional charges includ-

Earlier this week, Hyder, the announced a 5 per cent rise in sewage husiness, where the water of Welsh Water and pre-tax profits before excepin the year, and £4.5m of costs incurred through Severn's failed hid for South West Water.

The company said capital investment, at £412m, had exceeded after-tax profits from its regulated husiness by £95.6m while its unregulated husinesses, principally the Biffa waste division, were responsible for ed £20m in redundancy costs at the main regulated water and growth.

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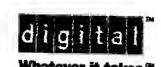
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CALL

The previous government surely did not foresee this extraordinary turn of events when it privatised the industry seven years

ago. That was.

however, the logic

of its free-for-all

mergers policy

part of the CEGB seems to have changed hands more times over the last seven years than a ten dollar bill. Regulators and agreement on price allowing, it's now about to change hands again and with it goes most uf Britain's remaining hope of building up its own international force in electricity supply. John Devaney is one of the more impressive chief executives operating in this now highly Iragmented industry and while no doubt an important role will be found for him in PacifiCorp, he will in future be working for an American company.

lan Lang's decision last year to prevent the

Power, from buying regional electricity companies (RECs) left the door wide open to US utility groups. The £1.5bn bid for York-bid and the state of shire Electricity, the last before the election, has left just Southern Electric as the only independently quoted REC. If Pacific Corp does huy Energy Group it will put an astonishing 8 RECs in American hands. For the record the other 7 are; Yorkshire, London, East Midlands, Northern, Midlands, Secboard, and Sweh. Of the remainder, two have been bought by water companies -Swalec, and Norweh - and a third by Scottish Power.

The previous government surely did not foresee this extraordinary turn of events when it privatised the industry seven years

to adopt the same stance. Certainly what it said in Opposition would lead you to the view that PacifiCorp can expect a reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Since then Margaret Beckett has said that

المذا مزالاما

competition concerns will continue to be the deciding factor in mergers policy and on that hasis it is hard to see any good reason for stopping the Americans. The MMC would not have an easy time finding one. Nonetheless, it is sad to reflect on the fact that our only remaining standard bearers as mainland Europe begins the process of deregulating energy supply, look destined to be the two generators. National Power and PowerGen. No disrespect meant to them, but what chance do they stand against the giant European monoliths and the increasingly aggressive Americans?

Bell tolls for ITV ... but not just yet

With everyone's sights firmly focused on the hrave new wurld of digital TV, in-teractive TV and pay per view, it's a wonder that anyone can still summen up any interest at all in the boring old business of analogue TV franchises. For a very sizeable proportion of the population, however,

they've got a good 10 years of revenue earning ability left in them yet. The latest round of consolidation might further extend their life expectancy by allowing a more co-ordinated approach to competing with the BBC, satellite, cable and digital terrestrial.

Americans plug into our electricity industry

Not that the three emergent winners in this market place - Michael Green, Lord Holliek and Gerry Rohinson - make easy bed fellows. What co-operation they do manage to achieve is largely of the reluctant and furced variety. Even so, three powerful egos is an easier number to sit round a table than 10 and a more co-ordinated approach to scheduling begins to look that much more

Lord Hollick's acquisition of HTV would tepresent the final piece of the jigsaw under present media ownership rules to fall into place. Whether he's prepared to pay the price is another thing, but he must draw some comfort from the game Granada bas played over Yorkshire Tyne Tees. Yorkshire once claimed it was worth £17 a share. Last March Granada said it was not prepared to hid at the then price of £12.80. Now it looks

set to clinch the company at just £11.75. With Mirror Group declared offside by the current cross-media ownership rules. Scottish is free to plough its own indepen-dent furrow north of the border. Its takeover analogue will remain the only method of TV | of Grampian establishes a not inconsider-

The formerly known as Hanson, formerly known as Eastern Electricity, formerly known as as Eastern Electricity, formerly known as In of the CFGR starts to be a start of the control of the CFGR starts to be a start of the control of that do not. By then the digital age will be well established and these franchises will be very much a wasting asset.

National Grid verdict will not end the story

Mr Justice Robert Walker has finally de-livered his verdict on whether the electricity industry - specifically National Power and the National Grid - misused nearly £thn of its pensions surplus, and rather surprisingly he has come down in favour of the compa-nies. It is hard to see the matter resting there, bowever. For one thing, the pensioners have already had a favourable ruling from the Pensions Ombudsman, and although he's now being told he's wrong in law, the pensioners will continue to hold the moral high ground, believing that right is on their side. And for another, this is not a particularly good judgment. The judge rehearses the arguments well enough, but he fails adequately to explain why he's opted for one side over the other.

The argument binged on whether the terms of the pension schemes allowed the companies to use the accumulated surplus for their own purposes, or most of it anyway. Most occupational pension schemes do. and while this invariably gives rise to controversy, there has always been a reasonable

underlying case for it. After all, in most occu-pational schemes it is the employer which makes the bigger contribution to the fund, so by rights he should therefore be entitled tu at least a share of any surplus.

However, with these schemes the wording seems specifically to require that the surplus is used for the benefit of employees. More-over, both National Power and the National Grid implicitly acknowledged that there were limits on the way they could use the surplus by tying it directly to the funding of redun-dancies, thus enabling them to claim that the money was a "benefit" to employees.

Aggrieved pensioners will certainly want to appeal and it seems right that they should be given that chance. Admittedly the surplus was used to fund very generous redundancy terms which might not otherwise bave been available, thereby reducing the pain of the downsizing process, but it is hard to see how redundancy costs are anything other than an employers' liability.

Whether pensioners do take the case to

the Court of Appeal rather depends on the trustees, who have so far been funding their legal costs. Both at the National Grid and National Power there is an unsurprising reluctance to see the case proceed any further. But wee betide them if they get caught putting pressure on the trustees to end the campaigners' funding. That would make a mockery of all those post Maxwell changes in the law to give pension funds more independence from their corporate masters.

Unemployment figures 'not a big threat to inflation'

Diane Coyle Economics Editor

Fears that falling unemployment will fuel higher wages and inflation are wildly exaggerated, according to a new report.

With new figures today expected to show a further hig decline in headline unemployment last month, the report claims the Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) bas distorted the official figures so much that they are an unreliable guide to the state of the labour market. According to Edmund Nonis, an economist at Nikko Europe, the threat of inflation posed by falling unemployment is far less than

widely feared. Since its introduction last October the JSA has distorted the headline figures, which simply record the number of people claiming unemployment henefit. The Office for National Statistics is reviewing the possibility of replacing this unsatisfactory measure with a monthly survey, an option rejected last year by the Conservalive government.

Most economists have reckuned the JSA bas cut the total are expected to show it rehy about 10,000-t5,000 a month, which would mean the underlying level of joblessness is still falling very rapidly.

But the Nikko paper claims that half of the 420,000 decline in the number of claimants between October and April has been due to the introduction of the JSA. This estimate, based on unemployment figures from the more reliable Labour Force Survey available up to February, is twice as big as the accepted size of the JSA distortion.

wage of those entering fulltime jobs from unemployment is £11.500 🤊

It runs counter to the consensus among City economists, many of whom believe the jobs market is already starting to overheat. They point to the steady climb in average earnings growth, although today's figures maining at 4.5 per cent in April. However, Mr Nonis coneludes that the pick-up in the number of people leaving the

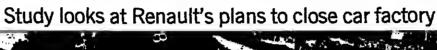
unemployment register is almost entirely due to the removal of fraudulent claimants, It does not, be argues, reflect any underlymg change in the jobs market.

The report goes on to argue that adding in people who are so discouraged they have stopped trying to find work could add another 2.5 million to the unemployment total, suggesting a "true" unemployment rate of more like 16 per cent of the workforce rather than the official 5.9 per cent. The inflationary impact of

falling unemployment will also . be limited to the extent that new jobs are part-time, short-term and low-paid. Mr Nonis esti-mates the average wage of those entering full-time jobs from un employment is £t1,500 a year, two-thirds the national average. He adds that withdrawing benefit for fraudulent claimants

means that as many households are losing a second income through the loss of benefit as are

gaining income by finding work. The report concludes: "There is no doubt that as the labour market continues to strengthen, inflationary pressures will begin to emerge in certain areas due to skill shortages. But these will be limited by the untapped pool of unemployed that exists in the UK."





Demonstrators at the Renault factory in Vilvoorde in Belgium received welcome news from the French car maker's annual meeting yesterday. Its board announced the appointment of e study to explore alternatives to the plans to close the site and cut 3,100 jobs. The workers also

received the support of French junior Industry minister Christian Pierret, who said the government was happy there would be an objective study of Renault's plans. "We're not certain that what was announced a few weeks back by the company is essential," Mr Pierret said.

fashion stores. Those costs

pushed the company into a

Other problems in the busi-

ness have included weather re-

lated trading difficulties and a

weak South African economy

which had damaged sales

City speculation on the likely bidder fur Geni had also mentioned Claremont

Garments, another M&S

Gent shareholders were ask-

ing for a substantial premium

£4m loss that year.

IN BRIEF

Inflation increases in Germany

Consumer prices in Germany rose by 0.4 per cent in May due to higher prices for food and energy. The annual inflation rate climbed to 1.6 per cent, reversing the declines of the previous two months. Inflation in other goods edged higher too, but in services declined. The weakness of the mark has driven import prices higher, but wage costs have been extremely subdued. Most analysis think the beadline inflation rate will remain very low, leaving the prospect of an increase in German interest rates very distant.

Separate figures suggested that manufacturing activity in Europe is poised to pick up. The EU-wide survey of business confidence showed an improvement in order books, and expected production remaining well above last year's doldrums. The current levels of business expectations are the highest since mid-1994.

Lord Harris's son on Carpetright board

Martin Harris, the 28-year-old son of Lord Harris of Peckham, has been appointed to the main board of Carpetright, his father's retail empire. Mr Harris junior has been moved up from marketing manager and will take his seat on the board next week, Educated at Curry University in Boston, he was a director of Harvey's Furnishings, another Harris business, for three years before joining Carpetright in 1991. He has gradually been groomed for promotion and has been introduced to analysis and the press at

recent City presentations.

Lord Harris was not available yesterday to answer any charges of nepotism. However, John Kitching, sales director, said: "Martin was largely responsible for the successful development of our new Carpet Depot format and his marketing flair will provide a valuable contribution to the future growth of the company."

Boeing strikes deal with Continental

Continental has become the third US carrier to name Boeing as its sole supplier of jets over the next 20 years following similar moves by American Airlines and Delta Air Lines. The company intends to buy 35 wide-body aircraft from Boeing, consisting of five 777-200 and 30 767-400ER planes. There are options for further purchases in the future. Terms of the agreement were not disclosed. Separately, American Airlines confirmed an order of seven Boeing 777-2001 GW aircraft to be delivered in early 1999 and 2000.

Salvesen shake-up 'has cost £200m'

Sir Gerald Elliot, the former chairman of the Christian Salvesen transport group, yesterday claimed that the current management's reconstruction proposals bad so far cost shareholders around £200m. Earlier this year Sir Gerald led a shareholder revolt against plans to pay back £150m to shareholders and demerge the Aggreko generator hire operation. Speaking after Salvesen, led by chief executive Chris Masters, had addressed Scottish sharebolders in Edinburgh yesterday, Sir Gerald backed up his latest claim by pointing to the collapse in the share price from around 325p to the current 240p, up 3.5p yesterday. "It shows that the belief that the demerger and paying back capital will unlock shareholder value has had exactly the opposite effect", he said.

Further round of provisions at Babcock

Babcock, the dockyard operator to engineering group which has been restructuring for at least five years, announced a new round of provisions totalling £25.6m. The decision to take a £23.7m charge to write off its investment in a Texas development project to process dust from electric arc furnaces was the main factor plunging the group to a £22m loss for the year to March, against profits of £3.1m before. The group is also talking to two buyers over a possible sale of the process division, which designs large-scale plants for the oil, gas and petrochemicals industries. Separately, Babcock said it would scale back its loss-making construction activities in South Africa, John Parker, chairman, said this would be his "final rationalisation of the portfolio." In line with the cut in the interim dividend, the final payment is halved to 0.875p, making 1.5p

Adtranz wins £17m train order from Prism

Prism Rail said contracts had been exchanged and firm orders placed with Adtranz, a joint venture between ABB Asea Brown Boveri and Daimler-Benz, for a £17m order for 44 four-car trains. The trains, which are all for Prism Rail's wholly-owned subsidiary LTS Rail, are to be made and maintained by Adtranz. they will be supplied on lease to LTS by Porterbrook Leasing Company for the remaining period of the franchise which is due to expire in April 2011. Lease rentals and maintenance charges have been fixed and will amount to £18.5m per annum, incloding interest fixing costs, once all the trains are in service.

Finance director resigns at BTP

Shares in BTP, the fine chemicals group, jumped 22p to 290p after it announced the appointment of Ken Greatbatch, formerly of Laporte, as finance director. Stephen Hannam, chief executive, said the resignation of Rob Martin, who had been finance director for 10 years, was by mutual agreement. He said BTP had reached a point where it needed a broad and global strategic outlook and a different style. The news came as BTP reported full-year profits up 8 per cent to £48m on sales 3 per cent ahead. Robyn Coombs at house broker Merrill Lynch was positive: "People have woken up to the fact that 60 per cent of BTP's profits is high-margin pharmaceutical and agrochemical intermediates."

Rush to beat Norwich Union deadline

Norwich Union members were queueing yesterday to beat the deadline to register for extra shares above and beyond the free shares they have already been allocated. The high level of interest means the shares are likely to start trading at well above the initial estimates of between 240p and 290p on which a 25p discount for members was based. 1G Index, the City bookmaker, was yesterday quoting a spread of £3.37-£3.47, a level that would see Northe year, with most in the last | wich float with a market value of almost £1bn more than original estimates of £5.6bn.

Dai-Ichi board resigns over loans scandal

A mass resignation of main board directors was announced yesterday by Dai-Ichi Kangyo, the third-largest bank in Japan and the fifth-biggest in the world, over the scandal involving £63m of loans made to Ryuichi Koike, an alleged corporate racketeer.

The resignations came as Tokyo police arrested four former Dai-Ichi Kangyo executives. bringing to eight the number of former and current employees who have been arrested in connection with the loans. According to reports in

Japan, the arrests involved two former vice-presidents and two former lower-ranking bank executives. The reports said one of those apprehended was Kenji Tanaka, now president of Jusco, a supermarket chain.

Mr Tanaka was a managing director al Dai-Ichi Kangyo from 1992 to 1995 when he headed the general affairs de-partment. The other three arrested were reportedly Akira Kanazawa, a former vice-president of the bank, Tsuneo Uchida, a former vice-president, and Yasuyuki Terasawa, a former managing director who was responsible for screening loans. The board of Dai-1chi

Kangyo is the second corporate board to resign en masse because of the scandal since 15 top-ranking executives of Nomura Securities stepped down

President Katsuhiko Kondo, 59, and Tadashi Okuda, the 65-year-old chairman who last month said they would step

down and stay on the board as advisers, will resign altogether from Dai-Ichi. The two vicepresidents who were to replace them, lehiro Fujita, 58, and Yoshiharu Mani, 60, will also resign. Between April 1995 and March 1996, Mr Fujita was in charge of loan screening, an op-eration police are investigating for connections to Mr Koike. Katsuyuki Sugita, 54, will

take over as the bank's president at the annual shareholders' meeting on 27 June, when the current president and seven other top-ranking executives formally step down to take responsibility for the scandal.

Another 16 employees, including branch managers, department chiefs and auditors, also would resign, the bank

The bank said the new board of directors would be made np of Mr Sugita and 15 other junior executives. The bank has not yet appointed a new chairman. Those selected "were found not to be involved in the current scandal by an internal investigation," Mr Sugita said yesterday.

"Any change of leadership would be good for the bank at this point," said Nozomu Kunishige an analyst at Lehman Brothers Japan. "They need people without the taint of the

The executives below board level who resigned were asked to do so hecause the internal investigation found evidence that loans may have been made to Mr Koike, said Mr Sugila.

Indonesian group buys SR Gent

SR Gent, the struggling Marks & Spencer supplier, has been acquired by Indonesian-based group Prospero Investments. The company has been in bid talks since last October.

Prospero is offering 82p per share in cash for the company, valuing it at £30.6m. Peter Wolff and Peter Wetzel, SR Gent's founders who own 62 per cent of the shares between, them have agreed to the deal, which values their combined holdings at £18.4m. The shares closed 8p higher at 79.5p. They stood at more than 100p two years ago. Prospero, which is controlled by the Indonesian en-

vasan, plans to review Gent's manufacturing and stock control processes. However, it says it is committed to Britain as a base for quality manufac-

SR Gent supplies M&S with tadieswear such as hlouses, dresses and skirts. This business accounts for 90 per cent of the company's sales. The deal marks the end of sorry period for SR Geni. In

October it announced that it was in crisis talks with its bankers and that it bad received at least two takeover approaches. That announcement delayed

publication of the company's full year results. They were an-

nounced in November showing an £11m loss caused by £16m it took a £7m provision to pull out of the Susan Woolf trepreneur Marimutu Siniof exceptional costs for the closure of the Clothing Barn shops. In April it announced interim losses of just under £1m compared with profits of £2.8m last time

The shares have been hit hard. In September the company's shares plunged by 41 per cent when it revealed the cost of the Clothing Barn closure. There were seven stores at the group's factories which

second time SR Gent bad

sold surplus factory stock. The shops bad been bit by weak sales and poor margins.

That withdrawal was the to the market price due to its valuable contracts with M&S, thought to be worth £150m a

been forced into a retreat thoughout the high street. In 1994 year.

N Brown chief raises Computer float could £50m in share sale leave chief worth £42m

Magnus Grimond

Sir David Alliance, chairman of the N Brown catalogue retailing group and one of Britain's richest men, yesterday raised £50.8m from a share sale to move funds offshore to beat the new Labour Government's first Budget next month.

Family trusts controlled by Sir David and his brother Nigel, another N Brown board member, sold 12.7 million shares at 400p yesterday, taking the family bolding below 50 per cent for the first time since the Manchester-based group floated in 1970. The disposal reduces the family-controlled stake from 57.3 per cent to 48.6 per cent. Explaining the move, Jim Martin, the group's chief exec-

Stock Exchange: "The reduction in the Alliance Trust Holdings will increase the liquidity in the company's shares and broaden its register," While the free float of shares

in the company has always been tight, it is understood that Sir David has decided to broaden his investment portfolio in anticipation of concerns surrounding the Budget on 2 July. It is thought that he will use the money raised to push more of his assets offshore to beat Labour's plans. Analysis are expecting the Chancelior of the Exchequer, Gordon Brown, to cut advance corporation tax, which could hit the value of shares.

Yesterday's sale, carried out by brokers UBS and Barclays de Zoete Wedd, left the shares utive, said in a statement to the just 1p down at 413.5p.

Humayan Mughal, managing finished computers and then director of the specialist computer manufacturer Akhter, count."

will be worth up to £42m when the group floats on the London Stock Exchange this summer. Harlow-based Akhter, which is raising £20m in a placing, will be valued at £60m, writes Sameena Ahmod.

Mr Mughal, who with his vife founded the company in 1979, will have his shareholding diluted to around 70 per cent after the float from 83 per

Though almost two-thirds of the group's business is manufacturing personal computers, Mr Mughal said it was not affected by slowing demand for PCs: "We make very specialised systems exactly to customers' requirements. We don't stock two months.

Akhter is also developing a

bigber-margin consultancy and services business. This year the group made £5m of profits before exceptional items on £36m of sales, just 3 per cent up en 1996. More than half of Akhter's

business comes from central government and the Ministry of Defence, for which it makes portable hard drives which can be removed from computers for security purposes over 25,000 times without wearing out.

The heavy dependence on government work means that around 75 per cent of Akhter's sales come in the second half of

Milk sours Northern's efforts

flattering sequence of events for Northern Foods, the dairy and prepared foods group. While its rival's shares have motored on relentlessly over the last five years, Northern's have performed poorly, falling from 314p in 1992 to a five-year low of 166p three years later. Yesterday's 6.5p rise still only took them back to 206.5p.

The principal problem is that while Unigate has been selling husinesses, generating cash and developing pow-erful operations in other food sectors such as pork processing. Northern has been weighed down by the unfortunately timed acquisition of Express Dairies and Eden Vale five years ago. As the chart shows, the proportion of people who buy all their milk from the milkman has been declining remorselessly as the public prefers instead to

buy cheaper milk at supermarkets. But while it may be too early to call the turn in Northern's fortunes, yesterday's presentation was the most positive for some time. Analysts believe a genuine recovery is now possible.

Pre-tax profits for the year to 31 March were 7 per cent ahead at £128m, in line with expectations. And as usual it was a tale of two haives. The prepared foods side of the business, which supplies ready-made meals and the like to stores, continued to prosper. Sales to M&S and the four big supermarkets were 8 per cent ahead and margins improved. Northern is investing £57m in its prepared foods business this year as it aligns itself increasingly with its big five customers, who now account for 60 per cent of its prepared foods sales. Profits and margins were well ahead last year and the impact of BSE, which knocked £3m off the balfyear profits, is gradually fading

But the good work in prepared foods was dissipated by the disappointing dairy operation. Here there was a savage £17m hit due to lower commodity prices on milk powder and butter fat. With the supermarkets using their buying muscle to squeeze supplier prices, milk margins are at their lowest point for a decade. However, Northern is becoming more choosy about its retail customers and is reducing its commitment to second-line stores such as Kwik Save, Iceland and Somerfield.

On the doorstep, milk deliveries con-tinue to decline and were 8 per cent lower at the year-end than 12 months previously. The more encouraging news is that the rate of decline is slowing. Northern also managed to push

through a penny-a-pint price increase.

Like Unigate, Northern expects more consolidation in the milk market, which should benefit the main players. So, with rationalisation seemingly gathering pace and Milk Marque taking a more realistic view on raw milk prices, Northern's fortunes should improve. On current year forecasts of £140m,

eporting its results a day after Unigate has not proved a very THE INVESTMENT COLUMN authorities match spending by bus companies on upgraded facilities,

the year, which included London bus

operator CentreWest, Greater Man-

chester Buses and Strathclyde Buses,

chipped in £15.8m to operating prof-

this year, but FirstBus reckons it can

only buy another £200m of hus

turnover before rubbing up against the 25 per cent limit traditionally deemed

the ceiling by the monopolies

However, annualised sales are already running at £750m and there should be at least a couple of years'

growth to squeeze out yet, given the cost-cutting potential. FirstBus hit its

15 per cent overall margin target for

the hus business this year, but sever-

al individual companies are still

lagging, and the company is expect-

ing at least 5 per cent annual profits

in passenger numbers being stabilised,

is whether this year's record £86m cap-

ital expenditure can generate real top-

line growth. Labour's pro-bus

transport policy and the advent of

"quality partnerships", whereby local

1996

119.8

1997

14.98 20016.13

Buy With

Confidence

UIC's Loading PC Supplier The Computer has been equationed as one of the UKs teaching PC supplier for one 10 years see many hundreds of procusion of

From Time

The question, even with the decline

growth over the next few years.

Rail will be 10 per cent of profits

its up from £35.1m tn £61m.

EDITED BY MAGNUS GRIMOND

Northern Foods: At a glance

Market value: £1.19bn, share price 206.5p

1994

157.2

pence

320

300

280

260

Share price

1995

1993

the shares trade on a forward rating of on turnover up 55 per cent to £552m. just under 12. Dairy companies are not The £216m of acquisitions during going to achieve a premium rating until the milk industry shake-out makes more progress. Still, the sbares are worth holding.

FirstBus makes good headway

irstBus, the product of the authorities. merger of hus groups at oppo-site ends of the UK in Bristol and Aberdeen, lonked a hit of an ugly duckling when it was hatched three years ago. But Britain's biggest bus operator has grown into something of a swan, outperforming the rest of stock market by nearly 14 per cent, even with the shares, up 14p at 217.5p, well down on their high of 243.5 in February. The question remains to what extent

FirstBus and its peers can sustain the acquisition-led growth which has fuelled the heady expansion of the industry. The latest figures show acquisitions were firmly in the driving seat in the year to March, with pretax profits soaring 132 per cent to £51m

Five-year record

Pre-tax profits (£m)

Earnings per share (p)

Dividenda per share (p)

Milk purchasers buying from

milkman only, in last seven days, %

augurs well.

FirstBus may have to be a bit more adventurous in looking overseas for purchases if it is not to become an income stock by early next century. Even so, profits of £78m this year, putting the group on a forward multiple of 12, suggests the shares are still reasonable value.

Macdonald has room for growth

eservations about the lacklus-tre regional hotel sector have tainted sentiment surrounding Macdonald Hotels, the Scottishbased group which floated at 145p in March last year. The group's shares hit a 231p high in February before falling to 167p, prompted in part by the bouse broker Cazenove downgrading full-year forecasts.

But the first full-year results esterday helped restore some faith in the group. Operating profit for the year to March grew 26 per cent to £10m, on turnover ahead 26 per cent to £41m. Macdonald's shares closed

9p higher to 176.5p.

The group's strength is its ability to spot hotels with development potential. It looks for three or four-star botels with plenty of undeveloped land, buys them cheap and adds rooms. With costly facilities like restaurants, car parks and lobbies already in place, the group can make a staggering 20 per cent return on capital on extensions, compared with around 12 per cent for a new hotel.

The group says that even without acquisitions, the development potential of its existing hotels would allow it to increase its bedroom capacity by over 50 per cent. Macdonald has also proven it is a keen bargain hunter, buy-ing new hotels at around £33,000 per room, roughly half the going rate.

The group bought five in the year raising its room stock to 1,420, and with £13.2m of development and refurhishment, it spent almost £20m in the year. Despite that, the balance sheet looks healthy. Over half the group's capital spending costs were financed by £11m of operating cash flow and although gearing is 37 per cent, interest is covered 9.5 times by operating profit.

The group has also protected itself against a hike in interest rates over the next five years by capping £25m of borrowings at 9 per cent interest.

Paul Heath at UBS has increased his profit forecast from £9.2m to £10.5m: On a forward p/e ratio of 13, the shares stand at an 3 per cent discount to the hotels sector. They deserve better. Good value.

A rattling good read, by the sound of it

The audio book market has come a long way in a short time since it started putting books on tape to help blind, elderly and very young people. It now offers a wide range of CD alternatives to the printed word, including poetry, sporting publications, Jilly Cooper romances and the James Bond books, all of

which clearly benefit from the spoken word. Turnover is set to top £100m by the end of the century. Publishers and book retailers still tend to think of audio books as poor relations however, which gives specialists such as ABM a chance to develop their own-label products as well as supply big retail chains such as Virgin/Our Price, Waterstones, Dillons and HMV with a range of products.

John Cooper, the 51-year-old managing director of ABM, has spent his entire career in the record and music industry, but he is nothing if not versatile. He started off at Transatlantic Records before joining EMI as general marketing manager. Via Motown Records be joined a company responsible for producing the Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra in association with Anglia TV. He belped found Posh Entertainment which lannched the Mills & Boon "Romance on Tape" label and sold 700,000 copies.

ABM is now raising £1.5m to finance further expansion in this very fragmented market. Next step is a listing on Ofex, the bottom rung on the Stock Exchange ladder.

Christopher Haskins, the ebullient Northern Foods chairman, was mystified at the huge number of analysts who turned up at his company's results meetings yesterday. The bumper turnout - more than 50 made the trip - was especially surprising given the relatively sparse City presence at Unigare's meeting

only the day before,
"It's the goodie bag," admitted one food
analyst who preferred not to be named. He may well be right. Northern Foods regularly supplies analysts (and journalists) who attend its meetings with little bags of biscuits and cakes which it makes for the likes of Marks & Spencer. Unigate does not.

Pen Kent was well known to a generation of business journalists as the press spokesman for the Bank of England before he was diverted to more serious challenges such as head of the international division and associate director for finance and industry, which is Bank-speak for the man responsible for letting down gently such financial disasters as Eurotunnel and Canary Wharf project. He hecame an executive director in 1994

and was responsible for Crestco, the settlement system which replaced the ill-fated Talisman. He has now retired and is being put out to grass at NatWest Bank, where he becomes one of 17 members on the full-time board from September 1. He will also be a member of the board of NatWest Markets and the audit and compliance committee.

He admits to being able and willing to deliver lectures in both French and German, although he prefers to negotiate in English. His interests include art, jazz and walking, and he is chairman of the trustees of Blind in Business and vice-patron of the Missing

PEOPLE & BUSINESS



which supplies the big retail chains

Persons Helpline. He is married to the former Jill George but he assures me she is no relacion to the present Governor.

Books on the decline and fall of the Tory government are starting to spring up like mushrooms on a summer morning. The latest project provisionally entitled Collapse of Stout Party. is a joint venture between Morrison Halcrow a former assistant editor of the Daily Telegraph who is now a consultant with Shandwick, the public relations empire, and retired Tory MP Sir Julian Critchley. Mr Halcrow is looking back at events since sterling fell out of the ERM. Sir Julian is covering the election campaign and the election of the new Conservative leader, and they hope to hit the bookstalls well in time for the Tory conference in October. Sir Julian is rooting for Kenneth Clarke as a one-nation Tory, but thinks Peter Lilley could snatch victory in a third ballot.

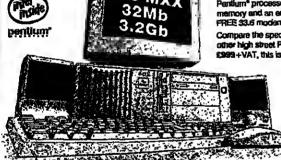
Among Kenneth Clarke's most enthusiastic backers are the members of classic car clubs who were given an unexpected windfall 18 months ago when the then Chancellor stood on its head a long-standing Treasury plan to make classic car owners tax their cars whether they were on the road or not. Since January last year the 160,000 cars that are still roadworthy after 25 years can be licensed free of charge.

Many owners initially suspected this would result in them being restricted to limited mileages, but so far the gift horse has withstood scrutiny. They now face an anxious wait until Gordon Brown has sat down on July 2 just in case he tries to reverse the concession. If so, I hope he feels the lash of Mr Clarke's tongue.

Clifford German

Breweres Par & Ty

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166 MXX

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IN BRIEF

Cortecs blood test approved in Japan

Cortecs International said its HelisalTM Rapid Blood was the first whole blood Helicobacter pylori rapid point-of-care test to be approved by the Japanese regulatory authority for distribu-tion in Japan. HelisalTM Rapid Blood is a rapid doctor's office test for the detection of antibodies against the H.pylori bacterium which is the major cause of duodenal and gastric ulcers. The HelisalTM Rapid Blood test is licensed to Zenyaku Kogyo, which obtained the regulatory approval.

Yates to open 18 more Wine Lodges

Yates Brothers Wine Lodges boosted full-year pre-tax profits from £7.47m to £10.51m and Gerry McLeod, chairman, said: "We are confident that the results for the year and beyond will show continuing progress across the group." The chairman stressed that the company's key strategy remained to grow organically and at an increased rate. He said 25 openings were planned for 1997/98, of which 18 would be branches of Yates's Wine Lodges. Earnings per share for the year to 30 March climbed from 14p to 21.5p, and the total dividend was lifted from 3.6p to 4.32p through a 2.88p final payment.

Marshalls to reduce operations in US

Marshalls, the maker of building materials and tools, saw pre-tax profits drop from £25.84m to £19.51m in the year to 31 March and held the dividend total at 5.2p. Andrew Marshall, chairman, said: "After a strategic review of the future of the US operations, it has been decided to seek alternative ways of reducing the involvement, preferably by way of an exchange of assets." He said
the group results reflected difficult trading conditions in the second half, particularly for concrete products. "Whilst the industry struggles with overcapacity and low margins it seems that
economic conditions are gradually improving and this should show
itself in future operating results," he said.

Anglian Group makes a good recovery

A recovery in annual pre-tax profits from £4.38m to £20.18m at Anglian Group, the replacement windows business, was accompanied by a partial restoration in the dividend total from 7.5p to 9p. The dividend last year was cut from 10.3p when profits came out well short of the £21.1m made in 1994/95. The company's chief executive. Eddie Boss, said the introduction of a specialist sales force in the retail home improvements market would help it continue its progress in the current year.

Profits fall at Charles Stanley

A fall in full-year pre-tax profits from £2.53m to £2.07m was reported by Charles Stanley, the stockbroking, corporate finance and investment management group. In a statement, the company said: "It is difficult, as always, to predict the outcome for the full year, but we nevertheless look ahead with optimism." Earnings per share fell from 17.18p tn 13.64p. Final dividend is 0.25p.

Whitehead Mann upbeat on prospects

An increase in annual taxable profits from £1.19m to £1.95m at Whitehead Mann was accompanied by an upbeat statement on prospects by the business trading group's chairman. Sir Peter Parker said: Trading during the first two mouths of the new financial year has been strong, with further growth across the group." The final dividend is 1.60.

Scottish Highland makes £749,000

Record profits of £749,000 were made by Scottish Highland Hotels in the half year to end-April. The result compared with £275,000 made in the same period last year. Hamish Grossart, chairman, said: "Forward bookings for the second half are very encouraging and we expect a strong performance for the year." The room rate rose 5.7 per cent to £46.41 in the six months to April.

Great Portland hints it may cut dividend

Magnus Grimond

Great Portland Estates, the property group, warned yes-terday it might be forced to revisit its high dividend policy if Labour reduced advance corporation tax as expected in next month's Budget. Analysts said Great Portland was effectively saying it might have to cut the payment, which represents most of the group's earnings, if it became less tax efficient due to a reduction in the 20 per cent

rate of ACT.
Richard Peskin, the company's chairman, said he was waiting to see the Government's review of corporate taxation but "should substantive measures be taken to alter the current relationship between the levels of corporation tax and tax credit on dividends, your board may find it appropriate to reconsider its existing divi-

ening to cut the payment to shareholders. But he said the group's ef-

fective rate of taxatinn was 25

stock", she suggested. Great Portland, which raised £97m from shareholders in February, yesterday announced a final dividend of 6.1p to maintain the annual total at 9.0p. This represented most of last year's earnings per share of 10p, which rose 5 per cent in the year to March, despite a dip in pre-

per cent, while ACT was 20 per

cent. If that relationship were

to be substantially changed, I am

sure that the board would look

at what was in the best interests

of shareholders in terms of our

dividend policy," he said. Nan Rogers, an analyst with

brokers Charterhouse Tilney,

said Great Portland was flagging that it might cut its dividend.

That would be a radical change

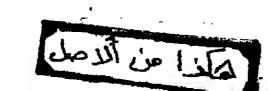
for a company that has in the

past been seen as an "income

tax profits from £47.6m to The group announced an 8 dend policy".

Mr Peskin refused to confirm that Great Portland was threat-£55m revaluation of investment. properties and retained reserves and other equity issues tutalling £4m.

	Compa	ny Resu	ts	
	Tornover £	Pre-tax £	EP\$	Dividend
Amersham (F)	426m (351m)	65.8m (50.8m)	83.8p (52.2p)	220
Inglias Group (F)	226.4m (214m)	20.18m (4.38m)	15.5g (3.2p)	9.0p (7.5p)
Sahouck Intel (F)	646m (723.4m)	-22m (2.1m)	-14.71p (0.47p)	1,50 (3.00)
kritish (beraton (F)	5 81m (9.72m)	-687.000 (-7.13m)	-Z.6p (-42.9p)	ol .
SS Greep (F)	333.2m (316.8m)	12.53m (15.08m)	30.2p (37.7p) ·	28.5p (20.5p)
TP (F)	404.5m (392.1m)	48 2m (37.6m)	20.25p (16.93p)	11.750 (11.20)
baries Stanley βτρ (F)	17.35m (15.86m)	2.07m (2.53m)	13.64p (17.18p)	3.820
Cavesport Kaltwear (F)	11 42m (10.17m)	2.45m (1.85m)	95.3g (77.5p)	9.85p (9.5p)
Des Valley Group (F)	13.29m (11.8m)	4.56m (S.8m)	30.5p (40.32p)	18p (14.5p)
Prunament Group (F)	56.7m (46.4m)	1.5m (1.2m)	5.17p (4.0p)	2.0p (1.5p)
Irsibes (F)	551.5m (356 3m)	51m (22m)		5.50
irent Portland Est (F)	- (-)	48m (47.5m)	16p (7p)	9p (9p)
lickling Paniscost (F)	98.5m (85.9m)	5.43m (6.4m)	10.4p (10.6p)	7.40
eeds Group (1)	41.95m (31.23m)	5.03m (3.27m)	23.20 (20.30)	2.4p (2.3p)
Hacdonald Hotals (F)	40.93m (32.55m)		8.7p (7.4p)	
Carohells (F)	233.2m (237.4m)	9.16m (4.78m)		4.5p (nill)
listrix Healthcare (1)	787 000 (237.411)	19.51m (25.84m)	. sach (s sta	529 (529)
forthern Foods (F)	767,000 (457,000)	B3,000 (74,000)	2.8p (7.1p) · · ·	3.0p (3.75p)
Scottish Highland (1)	1.88bm (1.96bm)	128.3m (119.6m)	16,13p (14,98p)	9.40
Severa Trend (F)	7.38m (7.28m)	749.000 (275,000)	2.6p (2.0p)	120
Strikey Group (F)	1.21bn (1.16bn)	367m (373m)	Ct Th leasts	32.66p
laments (F)	101.82m (98.35m)	5.12m (6.1m)	3.86p (4.86p)	23: (22)
lolex Green (F)	19.12m (9.51m)	2.65m (1.11m)		0.08fp
Whitehead Maso (F)	177.3m (181m)	14 39m (12.75m)		21p (20a)
Aldney (I)	17.05m (12.77m)	1.95m (1.19m)	7 48n (5-56s) ·	1.5p
Value Dane	16.86m (18.8m)	-167,000 (712,000)	-2 (Ma (4.02p)	1.0p (1.0p)
fates Brothers (F)	75.75m (61.18m)	10.51m (7.47m)	21.5p (14p)	4.32p (3.6p)
F) - Final (1) - Interior	(II) New		a cap (PY	



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Data Bank FISE 100 4739.6 +52.9 FTSE 250 4497.3 +13.2 FISE 350 2287.2 +22.0 SEAQ VOLUME 871.9m shares, 53,559 bargains

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Lucas Varity leads charge as Footsie smashes 4,700

Lucas Varity, the Anglo-Amer-Lucas Varity, the Anglo-American components group which created last year in a £3.2hn has had a difficult run since peaking at 259p late last year, led the blue-chip charge with a 14.5p advance to 209p. Last week the price was 182p.

It is unusual for an engineer to head the pack. In recent months a financial group has normally enjoyed the distinc-

Although many linancials criticism on both sides of the were again in the money, some nf the mare neglected Footsie constituents for once made strong progress.

Lucas Varity's display was ahead of an analysts' presentation today. Up to 40 analysts, some from the US, are set to strong futures market fuelled meet company executives at the group's Perkins diesel factary at Peterborough.

The suspicion is Lucas Varity, with first-quarter results due, will have a good tale to tell and the market is intrigued by

merger which embraced Lucas Industries and the Varity Cor-

poration; American Victor Rice became chief executive. The enlarged group has had difficulty reconciling the de-mands of US and UK investors. Its decisinn to cut yearly dividends to help pay for share buybacks has run into

Atlantic. Footsic closed for the first time above 4,700 – up 52.9 points at 4,739.6. New York, hitting new peaks in London trading. Continental, particuthe advance.

But again it was very much a market of haves and havenots. Blue chips hit the high road but the rest limped, often

MARKET REPORT

DEREK PAIN stock market reporter of the year

FTSE Smallcap index managed closed Nasdaq was a shade lowto close lower, albeit by a mere 0.1.

Footsic could enjoy another romp today following the after-hours disclosure that Energy Gronp, the former Hanson company, could collect a bid of more than 700p from the US Pacific-Corp. Energy shares closed at 580p, up 18.5p. There was talk some fund

managers, growing increasingly disenchanted with non-Footsie shares, were selling them to buy hlue chips. The temptation to stick to

market leaders was also evident miserably, behind. The FTSE in New York. Although the 250 index, up 13.2, is more than 200 below its peak and the cecord territory when London

possibility of a British Aero-

General Electric Co, on the space deal, rose 17p to 353.5p; a Lehman Brothers suggestion the shares should go to 400p was another bullish influence.

BT, with Merrill Lyncb hanging a 500p target, gained 12p to 482.5p and Smith Industries put on 7p to 784.5p ahead of an analyst meeting. BG flared another 9p to 218.5p nn continuing Dresdner Kleinwort Benson support.

For BTR it was another day the dumps - down 2p to 184.5p. At one time the price little changed at 290p as 14 per hit 180.5p.

Enterprise Oil, off 9.5p to

688.5p, and Lasmo, 3p at shaded to 413.5p as the Alliance family sold 12.7 million shares at 400p. adopting a more cautious

stance on the oil sector. Glaxo Wellcome jumped 39.5p to 1,273p and Amer-sham International's deal with Pharmacia & Upjohn lifted the shares 131.5p to 1,482.5p.

Builders scored more gams on the widening impact of the housing recovery. Barratt Developments rose op to 245.5p. Financials moved ahead although their exuberance fell below earlier efforts. Abbey National rose 12p to 895.5p, Halifax 13p to 762p and Standard

Chartered 13.5p to 972.5p. National Westminster Bank slipped 12p to 804p. Jarvis, duly confirming a substantial deal was being negotiated, gained 5p to 296.5p.

Morrison Construction was

cent of the capital was placed at 275p by directors; N Brown

Scottish Media put on 7.5p to 706p on the expected bid for Grampian TV, up 7p at 317.5p. Scottish Media now has 19.9 per cent of its target.

Granada added 12.5p to 902.5p on its talks with Yorkshire-Type Tees TV, off 5p at 1,155p.

The long-awaited hid for clothing group SR Gent finally appeared, lifting the shares 8p to 79.5p, Mice, the exhibition display

group, held at 8.5p as stock-broker Ellis & Partners placed 8.5 million shares at Sp. Petra Diamonds added an-

other 13p to 91.5p and Soco International gained 20.5p to 256p on its fourth Mongolian

High Point, a property consultant, surged 30p to 57.5p; a Taking Stock

McBride, the detergent maker, foamed 11p higher to 135.5p as Wassall emerged as a near 3 per cent shareholder. The shares were 215p in 1995. Wassall, easier at 326p, has 5.6 per cent of TLG, the lighting group which had been seen as its next target. TGI held at 75p.

Technopiast, the Israeli plastic group, held at 97.5p. Henderson Crosthwaite says the shares are a strong buy. Profits should be £2,4m this year and £3.2m next. The company has three investments worth £18m against a £24m capitalisation.

☐Bradstock put nn 6p to 84.5p, highest for two years. trading links with Hang Leong, a Malaysian group. restructuring, including a There is talk it is increasing £7.7m cash call, is under way.

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Stevens is the talk of Ascot

Racing **GREG WOOD**

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noon, the Epsom management were so delighted that their collective hangover may be lingering eveo now. If fewer than that arrive at Ascot for Ladies' Day next Thursday, however, you may find several of the track's executives sobbing quietly into their top hats in a secluded corner of the Royal enclosure, which is not a criticism of the satisfied air at Epsom, but rather a sign of the tain were among the figures disremarkable and continuing success of the Royal meeting.

The good old-fashioned though the only firm tip to snobbery may not be to everyone's taste (do not even bother to apply for the Royal enclosure unless a hadge-holder with eight years' attendance is prepared to second you). nor too the irritating number of racegoers who can distinguish Versace from Lacroix at 20 paces but would not recognise Henry Ceeil if he handed them his husiness card.

When it comes to racing of the highest quality, however, there is simply nothing in the world to match the 15 Pattern races at Royal Ascot, as the country's racegoers are clearly well aware. All four days feature among the 10 best-attended race-days of 1996. with Gold Cup day (76,316) at the top of the list, and the Wednesday (57,259) and Friday (53,145) placed fourth and fifth respectively.

In fact, the meeting is responsible for almost five per cent of the total attendance at all British courses over the entire year, a snippet of trivia which takes some believing until you study the anticipated fields for some of next week's main events.

The St James's Palace Stakes on Tuesday, for instance, is expected to include the winners of the 2,000 Guineas in France -looking down that long straight. (Daylami), Ireland (Desert sand Pat said to me, which way King) and Germany and Italy are you going?' I thought, 'it's (Air Express), as well as the straight down, how many choice-(Air Express), as well as the third, fourth and fifth from the English 2,000 Guineas.

Ladbrokes, who opened a book on the race yesterday, make Daylami their 9-4 favourite, and then bet: 5-2 Desert King, 4-1 Poteen, 5-1 Za-mindar, 6-1 Starborough, 10-1 Hidden Meadow, 16-1 bar.

The quality is excellent news lies on Ascot for almost a third of its annual racing coverage and

yesterday signed a new threeyear deal (cost undisclosed) to extend their contract for a fur-When 72,000 people turned up to watch the Derby four days

inclusive. The corporation will also address the unfortunate lack of depth in much of their racing coverage when compared to that of Channel 4, with the launch of a rival to the latter station's Morning Line during next week's meeting.

First Show, which will air for 25 minutes from 11.35 each morning of Royal Ascot, will include previews of the day's racing

and betting news. John Gosden, Barry Hills, Robert Sangster and Clive Britcussing their teams for the meeting at Ascot yesterday, al-

> RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Swan Hunter (Newmarket 8.10) **NB: Reinhardt** (Beverley 3.00)

emerge was for Sangster's two-year-old Cape Verdi. The filly's owner admitted that he will be 'very disappointed" if the fails to win the Chesham Stakes. The most impressive performance. however, was given by the American jockey Gary Stevens, who had arrived straight from the airport but gave no bint of jet-lag as he discussed his excitement at the prospect of riding at the Royal meeting.

"It will be an honour and an education for me to ride here." Stevens, who narrowly failed to complete the American Triple Crown on Silver Charm last weekend, said. "I've studied European racing since I was a child, and the great European riders, and I'm a great fan of Lester Piggott and Pat Eddery.

Stevens had rides at Newmarket a decade ago, and found the experience interesting. "It was a mile and an eighth, and I was drawn in the middle with Pat Eddery oo one side of me. I was es do you have?', and then the stalls opened and half of them went left and the other half wen right and I had to make a very quick decision."

Royal Ascot may be an education for Stevens, but there will be many members of the racing media hoping that the American can also teach his fellow too for the BBC, which now re- jockeys a little about the art of communication. Yesterday's results, page 31

Lindsay still in contention

Maurice Lindsay, the rugby league supremo, has re-emerged as a contender for the post of chairman of the Tote after being interviewed by the Home Office for a second time.

That places him on a shortlist of three for the job alongside Guy Watkins, the former chief executive of Hong Kong racing, and the long-time fav-ourite for the role, Peter Jones.

ELEKONE ELE

HYPERION 6.50 Elite Governor 7.20 Jay Em Ess 7.50 Santella Boy (nb) 8.20 Ballet Royal 8.50 Diwali Dancer 9.20 Totally Yours

GOING: Good to Firm.

Left-hand course. Eun-in of 170yd. ADMISSION: Club 516 (OAPs £12); Tattersults 51D (OAPs 57); Course 54. CARPARK: Free.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Manager

650.

BLINKEEED FIRST THEE REMANDS Hole (1900rd, 6.50).
WINNERS IN LAST SEVEN DATS: None.
LONG-DISTANCE KUNNERS: Elize Governor (6.50) has been sent 235 miles by N Lanupard from Kingsbridge, Devon. 6.50 MAIDEN HURDLE (E) £3,000

10 declared - 10 declared - 9ETTHMS: 6-4 Lucky Call, 7-2 Red Tel, 7-1 Beck And Call, 8-1 Commodity Broker, 10-1 others 720 SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE 5

7.20 SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE

(G) £2,375 2m 4f 110 yds

1 0P1. MACKETTS GROSS (19 12 0 ... R Genet

2 24. SOWNED SEMMER (D) 10 11 8. T Amba

3 204. MACKES 10 8113 Wher

4 613 NEMER SO BLUE 6112 M A REGIONAL

5 54. MOUTHO (Q) 10111 ... C Macket

6 34. MY BM ESS 81 10 G Sharket (7)

7 314. FURNICAR 7 10 12 A P BACKY

8 231. PALLION 4 10 10 B Dummoody S

9 021. MACKETS D WOOD 6 10 8 ... R Justice

10 26P. RESTRIV 01 10 2 ... C McCarmeck (7)

11 416. BUI DE FRANCE (SP) 7 10 0 ... S For

12 303. RESH DOMEROIN 7 10 0 ... O Barrome S)

13 0F4. AMASANSA 4 10 0 ... Mr R Tecnino (S)

14 1F6 ... UST AMAY 8 10 D ... K Carde

15 POD. DESPRINE WELL 7 10 D ... K Carde

16 555 MMES JOY 7 10 D _____ W Marston V 17 604 SALLOW GLEN 11 10 D _Dr P Pubband - 17 declared -EETIBES: 4-1 Paulton, Fintlock, 8-1 Hacketts Cross, Edward Seymour, Mazeme, 15-1 others 7.50 NOVICE CHASE (D) £5,000 2m 7f

2TT 7f

1 3/1- CAMMINEUX (CD) 7 11.8 ... A P McDoy
2 24. MISSIER CRUSADER (C) 11.118 Mr 5 Desch (7)
3 (22.5 ASSE (SF) C. Leves 8 11.2 ... L C. Chesnign
4 PSP MR CHAPUS 8 11.2 ... L R. Kennengh
5 Fd1. SANTELIA BOY (8) 5 11.0 R. Robrinosh 8
8 Ff3. DARKS COURSE 8 10 11... R. Genet
7 665- 1407 OF IME 7 10 11... R. Johnson
9 THING 6-4 Santale 80 (9), 9-4 Ginemengiliz, 112 Arise, 7-1 Master Crustader, 10-3 Dearls
Course, 16-1 Mr Centure, 25-1 Lady Of Miles

COURSE (16-1 Mr Centure, 25-1 Lady Of Mr Miles

COURSE (16-1 Mr Centure, 25-1 Lady Of Mr Miles

COURSE (16-1 Mr Centure, 25-1 Lady Of Mr Centure, 25-1 Lady Of Mr Mr Centure, 25-1 Lady Of Mr Lady Mr Centure, 25-1 Lady Of Mr Lady Mr Centure, 25-1 Lady Of Mr Lady Mr Centure, 25-1 Lady Of Mr La

8.20 HANDICAP HURDLE (D)

5 153- MR MOSNETY (5) 8 10 4 T Concombs (5) BETTINE: 7-4 North Sheets, 3-4 North Street, Sallet Royal, 4-1 Lagran, 7-1 Mr Mortarty

8.50 HANDICAP CHASE (D)

- 5 declared -BETTING: evens Direll Dencer, 9-4 Mine's An Ace, 11-2 Evening Rain, 10-1 Over The Pole, Gold'n Shroad

9.20 NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £3.750 2m

- 5 declared -BETTHIS: 5-4 Totally Years, 2-1 Sallocounite, 7-1 Zellin, 8-1 Chief Saio, 10-1 others



Revoque return

Revoque, a failure in the Irish 2,000 Guineas, will begin his comeback in the Sussex Stakes at Goodwood, his owner said yesterday. Robert Sangster said that although he was keen to run the colt at Royal Ascot, his son, Ben, was against it. Revoque, runner-up to Entrepreoeur at Newmarket, returned sick from Ireland and was unable to run in the Derby in which the owner's Romanov was third.

NEWMARKET

6.40 Plike Creek 7.10 Arawak Cay 7.40 Octavia Hill 8.10 Dancing Queen 8.40 Right Tune 9.10 High Intrigue

GOING: Good - straight stile (remainder - Good to Firm).

STALLS: Stands side. IRAW ADVANTAGE: None.

Right-hand course with 1m straight (July course).

Course in south-west of town on Al204. Bus link from Cambridge and Newmerket rail stations. ADMISSION: Glub 516 116 to 25-year-olds 510); Grambtend & Paddock 510 116 to 25-year-olds 50); Family Environment St. CAR PARE: Members 11; remainder free.

LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: H Coeff. — 65 winners from 250 runners to 25 1 even train of 527-740. 3 Ranges — 10 116 to 25 1 even train of 527-740. 3 Ranges — ## LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: H Coeff — 63 winners from 250 runners gives a nurvess ratio of 24.3% and a profit to a 51 level stake of £27.40; 2 Hannon — 43 winners, £28 runners, £28,56,5286.56; J Gotelon — 42 winners, 258 runners, 14.1%, −566.17; L Cannoni — 28 winners, £22 runners, 11.1%, −5128.75.

■ LEADING JOCKETS: Pas Eddery — 105 winners, 518 rides, £3.3%, −4.45.96; L Det. Lort — 74 winners, 510 rides, 14.5%, −5178.30; W 8 Swinburn — 44 winners, 311 rides, 14.1%, +52.1%; J Rold — 38 winners, 361 rides, 11.5%, −544.70.

■ LINKERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Molly Music (7.40) was at Southwell on Friday, Cartana Prince (8.10) was at Catterfek on Friday.

WINNESDS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Mody Music (7.40) was at Southwell on Friday.

Cottage Prince (8.10) was at Gatterik on Friday.

LONG-DISTANCE EURINESS: Bargill Lady (7.40) has been sent 206 miles by J W Wates from Richmand, North Verkohire: Ordained (8.10) & Sucz Tornado (8.40) have been sent 200 miles by Mrs Mercely from Linguist, Lancachire; Smart Spirit (8.40) sent 200 miles by Mrs M Erweiey from Linguist, Cleveland; Yet Again (8.10) sent 192 miles by Mins Gay Kelleway from Widtenmbe, Pounce.

6.40 JUPITER LIMITED STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 1m 6f 175yds Penalty Value £3,558

— 6 declared — BETTING: 5-2 Polyphony, 8-1 Pillo Croek, 4-1 Desert Dunes, Whitimatic, 8-1 Chetham Island, 14-1

Unraced as a two-year-old, POLYPHONY has yet to run a bad race after three outings. Runner-up bohind Brand New Dance at Wolverhempton in April on his debut, Roger Choriton's
cott went one better at Cartale two weeks later and cid well under 9st 6lb in his 8rst handsup when a three-and-a-helf-length fourth to Right Man over the distance at Nottingham
19 days ago – conceding a stone to the winner. Pat Eddery teams up with the US-bred for
the first time here and he can return to winning form. Pilor Creek, a close-up fourth of 19 behind Prince Kinsky at Epsom in April on her return, chased home 25-1 chance Last Laugh at Bath next time but beet only one home in the 15-runner race won by Tumpole at York, at Bath next tane but best only one home in the appliant of the Desert D

DAILY TELEGRAPH MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2YO 6f Penalty Value £3,753 ___W Ryse 6 _M Roberts 10 _1 Deltori 2 BRIANSTONE, (Seymour Blooks of Lung Las D Esworth 8 7 ...

DENTARDIA, (Grave Magle Perfecting) J Euston 8 7 ...

LINDEN HEIGHTS (H C Chung) L Curran 8 7 ...

RINGLEADER (12) (Azom) P Cole 8 7 ...

MANORA BAY (44) (Deut) J Witters M Tomplora 8 5 __ I Date 6

- 10 tackered -SETTING: 7-4 Arzwak Cay, 11-4 Lindon Heights, 13-2 Ringlander, 8-1 Mannorn Boy, 5-1 Aldwych Ar row, 10-1 Brimstone, 14-1 Bellu D'Alra, Little Indian, 16-1 Denturdia, 20-1 Gift Of Gold - 10 dec

Pick of the trio with expensance appears to be Manners Ray, who trashed a two-length third behind Biolect on his respondence at the Cawen medicing here but could do no better than sort of nice to Classy Calo at Portisesect 11 days affectives. However, this can go to a newcomer and Devid Lodor's ARAWAK CRY, a 26,000ghs Common Ground coit out of a newconer and pend Liber's Antwinker Cart, a Zoovings Common George control of Person Book mare, might be the one. Olivier Festive takes the ode, Hingleader, a son of the speedy Magic Ring, finished a never-dangerous fourth (of 10) to Oti Never Again on his debut at Wokerhampton 12 days ago but will progress. Even so, the selection might have most to fear from a fellow newcomer in Luce Currant's Under Heights, a 19,000 girs of Criste who is by Distinctly North from a Shirley Heights mare. Selection: ARAMAK CAY

7.40 NGK SPARK PLUGS HANDICAP (CLASS E) £5,000 added filles & mares 7f Penalty Value £3,948 30264- MADGER BAY (290) (M.E.Hull) C.Duyer 49 12. ...Pat Eddery 5 ...O Pestier 6 6 X Pallon (

METTINE: 5-1 Cotavin HE, 11-2 Molly Maule, 6-1 Sharp 'n' Shady, 8-1 In Chaininine, 9-1 Endger Nay, 20-1 Punh A Venture, 11-1 Hejet, 14-1 others

FORM GUIDE

OCTAVIA HELL showed much improved form when running Alimeon's laste to a length in a field of 15 in an appraishe event at Doncaster last time. Peter Harris's filly has been raised alto for that but site can open her account wint Oliver Pesier an eye-catteing booking. Moly alkalet has been to action at all-register meetings and has improved a placing with each ly Missic has been to action at all-teacher meetings and has improved a placing with each of her last three races, most recently when striving whiting from at Southwell last Friday. The filty made the frame four times on suff in 1996 and should do so again this time. Sharp her Stady looked in need of further when a two-and-a-half-length fourth of 15 behind Destry over so, furlongs at Chepstow 16 days ago, so the extra furlong on this softer track should suit. Ches Walf's runner finished a good thant to Abholiuse Mage over timight's time at Kamouth on her final start test term, Hungill Lady, runner-up twoe last season – behind Cestam Magic at Rippon and Bishops Court at Harration – will be sharper for her Newcastle severation 19 to Smokey From Caption set morth, her first appearance areas October. The filty can figure with Franciae Dettors in the saddle, he Chatelelake heart had much racing and could go well with good Sto-claimer Royston Ffrench tating the rate. Good Lewis's filly inshed a little more than couple of lengths off the winner when fourth of 14 to Dark Monace's race at Brighton eight days ago and races off the same mark tonight. Height showed some abity last season and ran't out of it even if she has run unplaced in both outings to far that term.

Selection: OCTAVIA HILL

101	ESSEX CUP (HANDICAP) (CLASS E) £5,000 added 118 4F
<u></u>	Penalty Value £4,045
6-045	ANCIENT QUEST (J.Q (Michaels) N Catagram 4 10 D
02150	FREST IDECRET (5) (D) (P & S Laws Partners) 9 Harmon 5 8 13Pat Eddary 1
00462	SHEAR HELEGER (18) Uses Gorde) D Congrove 4 8 12
	LOCKEMBRORANAMISON (21) (CD) (SF) (B M Securolly) Box Jones 9 9 6 Day 23
620-0	DALMARME (19) (the Record Company) Wherein 46 4 K Fellon 2
0.155	WOLAT A FUSS (S3) (B Hartoury) 8 Hartbury 4 6 2
	ADMIRALS SECRET (USA) (5) (6) (As CA Vail) CWall 881
	ORDANGO Sh (Pater Enton Record & Aiston 4 5 0
	FORMIDABLE PLANE (25) 54s Fits Brown; W Musson 48 11
	DANCING QUEEN (15) (Mrs E.A. Harre) M. Bed 38 10
	VENTURE CONNECT (105) (Angla Telecom Cantes Pici C Brooks 3 8 8 R Parham 10
	COTTAGE PRINCE IS ID) (Mrs Key Thomas) J J Quan 488 (4ed
	MODRE JOHN INVADER (32) (Makeum Al Makeum) E Duriou 3 8 5 D O'Donohou (3) 12
	SZAPY TARE (4) (5) (The Or He Rivers) CSmith 5 8 5 A Culture 14 V
	YET AGAIN OD 60 (SP) (A P Griffs) Gay Kellows 583
тт.~	-10 declared -

HETTEN: 5-1 Cottage Prince, 11-2 Yet Agala, 15-2 Swan Ho 10-1 Ancient Quest, Dencing Queen, 12-1 Moonlight Invader bow, 16-1 Admirals Secret, Formidable Flame, 20-1 others

PORAL GUIDE

This can go to ORDANED, trained by Enc Alston in Preston. The daughter of Mitoto was twice a winner last season, both at Redox, She was note lengths of the winner when third of six) to Gold Desire on her responsance at Ay lest morth but she min Vasharavay to helf a length at Leicester nine days ago and moss off the same rating this time. Yet Again was

werrang for the third time from four starts this year when deteating Duncombe Hull a length of Brigton in April – the pair have lengths clear. The five-year-old drifted from 5-4 to 5-2 after starting fourth to Mr Blowing on a return to the Sussen back eight clays ago Lookingforarambow werthout a win for two years a couple of lengths admit when they were second and third to Dosen Fighter at Thersk in April and should confirm the form on 3to worse terms. Fairly Knight won at Haydook next time and, olthough simplaced hince sonce, contains both others, most recently when fifth of 23 between Carburton at Whitcoir less week should not be far every off a 4th legion mark than when uniform or the last time starts and length and a half at Cattenck last Friday, Swan Mouter hasn't been successful since has debut at Musselburgh in April of 1996 but ran Euross Grift to a neck at Haydook last brife.

Selections: ORDAINED

8.40 SPORT OF KINGS TOUR HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added ...R Wales (5) 11

New Torside, 12-1 Satisade, 16-1 others

FORM GUIDE

Right Tusse, who won the race in which Europreneur, storing at 9-1 on, frished fourth in when making his debut here last August, followed with a fourth behind Blue River at a taster meeting here. Ben Hambury's fifty sound up last time with a second to Brandon Jack at Goodwood but was unplaced on her return and was bettern 14 lengths when third fof firely to Ben's Ruby et Ayr. MO ADDAB tooks a much better proposition. Successful at Portefact and Ascot in 1995, Alec Steward's charge ran some good caces without annung in 1996 and his Chepstow success in a conditions event last month on his first appearance since September will have boosted no conditions event last month on his first appearance since he can follow up. Jacker's Boy, it con over tonger's timp at Thesis on his reappearance and fasted to last home when tacking on additional quarter mile and unplaced at Wansick. Many Reveley's Swart Spirit was include Out by Can Can Lady at Newcascie in May on his first outing since November but finished nearer last man first in Out Of Sight's race at York.

9.10 VENUS MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3YO 1m

_	44 Period y value £3,850
0	ABOO HOM (3G) (Shekin Armed Al Makadum A Stewart 9 D
6-	
0-	
	VELVE CLICODOT Library Condetts R Amstrog 89 R Price 2
· K-7	- 9 declared -

1 Veuse Cilonot, 12-1 Haritd, Zorpour, 16-1 Aboo Hom

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

A promising five-and-e-holf-length fourth of 131 to Fasching Rhybm, staying on strongly siner missing the break. The Soder's Wells filth hash'n raced since but John Gosden is
filedy to produce the filty fit enough and she can open her account. From an entry of twe,
Henry Ceol runs Seattle Art. Hermen Fellon: and High lintingue (Wille Ryan). Seattle Art
finished one placing behind Hadde when both were in the ruck behind Mandelak at Yambouth
at the end of October but he as maleng his first appearance then and can reverse the form.
Neither has raced since but Seattle Art, a Seattle Sew half-brother to the same stable's
useful Allegan, as another who will be straight enough, High Intrigue distret from 2-1 to 5-1
when south of 12 to Our People at Lelicester last backend on his single start so far and
this son of dual Derby hero Stwicy Heights tooks sure to find a winning opportunity in due
course.

SALISBURY

HYPERION

2.20 Desert Lady 2.50 The Fugative 3.20 Sharp Imp 3.50 Winter Garden 4.20 Mr Sponge 4.50 Love Has No Pride

GOING: Good to Firm.

STALLS: Straight course = far side; 1m 2f = inside,
DEASW ADVANTAGE: None,
Bight-hand course, mainly upfill and testing.

Course is 3m SW of city of A3094, Sallabury station (London,

Waterioo-Exeter line) 3m. Bus service to course. ADMISSION: Members 5.13; Tattersalis 50; Course Enclosure 5A (accompanied under-16s free all enclosures). CAR PARK: Free, SLINEERED FIRST TIME: None.
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: Littlestone Rocket (2.50)
won at Folkestone on Wednesday.
LONG-DISTANCE BUNNERS: Nod's Sommez (2.50) has been sent

286 miles by M Dods from Piercebridge, Co. Ducham; Tycooness (3.50) sent 264 miles by M Johnston from Middleham, N Yorks . 2.20 EBF WHITEPARISH NOVICE STAKES (CLASS D) £4,350 added 270 filles 5f DESERT LADY R Chemion 8 8 DODO 0 Beworth 8 8 DOWNERS SEEL J Bridger 8 8 MANNAFIL P Wallayin 8 8 JACOB PROPERTY SEEL J BRIDGER 8 8 JACOB PROPERTY SEEL J BRIDGER 8 8 JACOB PROPERTY SEEL J BRIDGER 8 8 JACOB PROPERTY SEEL J Sprake 8-_A Daty (5) 8 ROBBIT LANE | Baking 8 8 ... SABRE GRIL R Hannon 8 8 .

-8 declared -nor Night, 6-1 Desert Ludy, Kanadi, 7-1 Robio BETTING: 7-2 Dodo, Midsus

05 UNIVERSAL LADY (18) C. James 88 ..

	2	.50	AMBER TRUST HANDICAP (£4,025 added 5f	CLASS E
	1	-04050	FRIENDLY BRAVE (46) (D) (RIF) Gay Helloway	7 10 0
	2	0001-0	(47) (CD) J Speciong 88 12.	
	3		SHARP STOCK IN R Hodges 487S	
	4	0000-0	MACRELLYCUDOY (18) (D) Mrs N Dutlied 8 8	6
- 1				Durcan (5) 9
	5	40-541	LUCKY DIP (125 (D) D Elsworth 3 9 5	Reid
	8	0-0003	NED'S BOHNNEA (15) (D) M Dods 8 8 10	A Ctack
	7		BARRANAK (12) (0) 6 McCourt 58 10	
	8	00-002	THE PUBLITUE (14) P Mitchell 488	A Wholes (3)
	9	00-000	MED TIME (IA M Stunders 488	also Angell (7)
į	10	600601	LITTLESTONE NOCKET (7) (D) W Mar 967	Geo
				me 07tell 12
	111	000-0	PERCHANCE TO DREAM (23) 8 9 Milities 3	83
	I [—]			T Security
	40	0.0000	CHECON LABOR CO. S. LA Develou C. 7. 440	

12 0-0302 CHEP'S LADY (8) 1 M Bradley 5 7 10... - 12 declared -— 12 decembe Mainum weight: 7st 10to. 7we handlop weight: Chiefs Ludy 7st 8to. BETTING: 9-2 Luddy Dip, 9-1 Ned's Bennam, Barranak, Litzbetone Roc et, 8-1 Priontly Brave, Chief's Ludy, 10-1 High Dompin, 12-1 ethers

HYPERION

2.00 Oatey 2.30 Mister Bankes 3.00 Cee-lay-Ay 3.30 Mr Teigh 4.00 Augustan 4.30 Neronian 5.00 Prima Verde

GOING: Good to Firm. STALLS: Invide. DRAW ADVANTAGE: High for St & 71 100yrbs.

STALLS: Iredie. DRAW ADVANTAGES: High for St 27 (100)cls.

Bight-hand, galloping course with very still Gf.

Course is In W of town on A1025. Bus service from Beverkey station (Riul – Searborough Ine) 2m. ADMISSIONS: ChaStill; Junior Clab (18 to 21-year-olds) 18; Thereamla 18; SilverRing 53; Course Enclosure 52; Picule area 52 or 52 per ear, pins
52 per occupant. CAR PARE: Prec.

LINKERED FIRST THEE: Tark And A Bulf (viscord) (2.00); Mister Bunkes, Miss Seveted (viscord) (2.101; Prospector's Cove (vi-

sored) (J. 30). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: Relabords (3.00) & Mr

Telgh (3.30) won here on Thurnday. Telgh (3.30) won here on Thurnday. LONG-DESTANCE RUNNIERS: Complex Morn (2.00) & Mister Bankes (3.30) sent 256m by WG M Turner from Conton Denham, Son.

2.00 POLYGON (HUMBERSIDE) HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,100 fillies & mares 5f

– 17 declared –

- 1 secure - 1 Maintum weight: 7st 10th. The franching weight: Rotherfield Park 7st 3th. DETTMA: 6-1 Onley, 7-1 Sentet Harbour, 8-1 Dominalle, Bystinal, 10-1 Phornach's Joy, Caspian Marx, Assoche, Superfelle, 12-1 others

2.30 MORE LEARNING CLAIMING STAKES

(CLASS F) £3,300 added 2YO 5F

MeCadin (7) 10 6

3.20 BOLLINGER SERIES AMATEUR HANDICAP (CLASS F) £4,000 added 7f 30-046 WHITE SETTLER (18) (0) 9 Hodges 4 12 0...... Mr J Thornd 7 1-1131 MR NEVERMEND (118) (D) G L Moore 7 11 10 ...

- 12 declared -Minimum weight: 9st 7b, Tue handcap weight: Seem Mill 9st 2b, BETTING: 9-4 hir Nevenskut, 9-2 Sharp lang, 7-1 White Settler, Morco co, 10-1 Pointer, Siber Lining, 12-1 Havego, Justinianus, 14-1 others

3.50 BISHOPSTONE STAKES (CLASS C) £7,500 added 3YO 1,m 6f. 0-512 WHITER GARDEN (26) (66) L. Curron 9 2 ... (20-03 PLEICHER (27) H Morron 9 11... 32 YMOPIA (16) (66) I Salting 8 11 ... R Heginos 3 III, Hills 4 I Reld 2 8 FOLEYS QUEST (9) J 5 Moore 88. TYCOONESS M Joh Johnston 83.

BEITHE: 4-6 Water Gordon, 9-4 Thopia, 8-1 Tye 4.20 BLES MAIDEN STAKES (D) £4,900 3YO 7f _T Spraine 6 D KULDEE BOY (LA) AP Jones 9D ... R Price

- 10 declared -BETTRIC: 13-8 Khadren, 7-2 Mr Spongs, 7-1 Mellieur, 8-1 GKa, 10-1 Bul-ladara, 14-1 Vocil, Over The Moos, 10-1 others BARFORD ST MARTIN LIMITED STAKES

	1.50	(CLASS D) £5,000 added 1m 2f
1	05000-	BULLFINCH (359) R Philips 4 6 6
2	4500-0	LONGBERTO (16) V Some 4 9 6 C Rutter
3	30-030	MEDIEVAL LADY (24) Building 4 63
4		MORET (76) (D) G Virage 3 8 9M Hills
5		SCO6S (12) (D) L Current 3 8 6Pat Editory
8	-35364	CNICYS QUEST (S) J Noville 3.8.7
7	-20404	LOVE HAS NO PRODE (14) 9 Harmon 387 Done O'Hell
		~ 7 declared -
- 3	THE 21-	Motet, 5-2 Sceet, 9-2 Leve Hes No Pride, 8-1 Codys Quest
		Lady, 20-1 Bullinch, 23-1 Lomberto

3.00 ELTHERINGTON HANDICAP (CLASS E)

3.30 UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLNSHIPE & HUM-BERSIDE HCAP (CLASS D) £5,000 1m 2f

4.00 ERNEST NORMS MEMORIAL HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added 1m 4f

4.30 UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL LIMITED STAKES (CLASS E) \$4,100 1m 100yds

- 6 declared -percent: 6-4 Necester, 4-1 Oct The Point, 9-2 Station Line, Procedure Chaire

O HAVESTREER (S7) M W Essenty 8 13. Disk Stemen 2 5 NOW PERF (12) M W Essenty 8 12. Disk Stemen 2 5 NOW PERF (12) M W Essenty 8 12. Stemen (15) \$
PERSON TEST (15) M W Essenty 8 12. Stemen (15) \$
4103 PERSON E (25) QH (87) N Torker 8 12. Stemen (15) \$
420 PERSON E (15) J Wendon 6 12. Stemen (15) W STEMEN (15) M STEMEN (15) - 11 decimed pertraid: 2-1 Minter Bushes, 9-4 Electroid, 15-2 Pennison, 9-1 Including,
12-1 Sandy Shore, 14-1 Mint Seveled, 25-1 Bast Prop, 25-2 others

HYPERION 210 As-Is 240 Shewdon 310 Hetteb 340 Lasham 4.10 Rambold 4.40 Sharpwitted 5.10 Princess Of Hearts

GOING: Firm, STALLS: Straight course - far side; rest, - inside, DRAW ADVANTAGE: High for 6f to 1m. Left-hand course, level and fair.

Course is N of town on A149, Yarmouth station 1m. ADMISSION: Clob 512; Trace-sails SA.50; Course 54.50, CAE PARKE 51, BLINKERED PIRST TIME: Mockille (2.1D); The Hobby Lobby

visored) (3.40), WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Eponine (2.10) won at Camerick on Friday

CAMPICE OF FIRMS.

LONG-DISTANCE EURINEES: Princess Of Hearts (6, 10) has been sent 291 miles by M Pipe from Nicholashayne, Devon. 2.10 CHARTER HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025 added 370 1m 6f | Addled 370 1/11 6f | Document |

— 10 secured —
Minimum weight 7st 20th, True handicop weight Mechille 6st 11th.
BETTRE: 7-2 Jecleste, 9-2 Epoulos, 11-2 Bigs On Life, Aurolian, 6-1 Aslat, Krosno, 8-1 Davis Summit, 20-1 others

2.40 RIVER BURE NOVICE MEDIAN AUCTION STAKES (CLASS E) £4,200 added 270 6f Micole Honorth 3

BETYDIG: 1-3 Showdon, 7-1 Great Melody, 20-1 Up The Wall, Jes'chill-

3.10 RADIO NORFOLK CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS C) £7,325 added 6f 660000 SPANISH SERIPPER (6) (D) M Chapman 6 6 0 D 0'Shon 1 300-53 VENDURE CAPITALIST (53) (D) (8P) D Notolis 8 6 0 Mex Granes 4 20-130 HATTAB (11) P Watern 38 10 ______ D Helland 9
466-40 JOHENN STACCATO (18) (D) J Eustace 38 8 _R Cockstone 2

SETTEME: 9-13 Venture Capitalist, 5-2 Hattab, 7-1 Johnny Staccate, 18-2.

4.10 POTTER HEIGHAM HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025 added 6f 504615 BRIGHT PARAGON (18) (D) K May 8 7 12 .. Minimum weight; 7st 10th, Twe Isrusian weight; Insighte 7st 90. HETTING: 9-4 Prima Sile, 7-2 Bright Paragon, 13-2 Don Pepe, Don Car, 8-1 Hamuni's Univer, Wadorn Droom, Insightin, 14-1 Rombe 4.40 WEATHERBYS PEDIGREES MAIDEN MOON FARRY I Streph-Osbourne 8 11 Sound SHARPWITTED J Gooden 8 11 G H ___G Hart

3.40 TOLLHOUSE SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £2,875 added 270 7f

- 7 declared -RETITION: 5-4 Lesham, 11-4 Collizan, 3-1 The Hobby Lobby, 18-1 Sick As A Parrel, 20-1 Sparking Socret, Firther, 25-2 Thos Island

00 THOS ISLAND (50) M Tomolons 8 6.

14 IASHAM (IS) N Calaghan 9 2 W Ryee 4
SICK AS A PARSOT CONVER 8 11 Stack 6
SPARRUBE SECRET CHAINTY 8 11 Moles Howarth 5
604 THE HORSY LORBY LIS M Charmon 8 11 J Quien 2 V
403 CALLIRAM [19] M Bianchord 8 6 R Cockesse 7
606 FIRMANA (11) P 0 Sians 8 6 J F 6300 9
THINS SIX AND 600 M JONES SIX AND 600 M JONES

5.10 HORNING HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025

added 3YO filies 1m 2f 34-000 PRINCESS TOPAZ (8) COper 9 7 ______ & Carter 6 24255 CAMERIDGE BALL (233) (67) M Johnston 6 4_D Holland 10

7.00 King Of Show 7.30 Riyadian 8.00 Philistar 8.30 Trying Times 9.00 Outsourcing 9.30 Sherqy GOING: Good to Pirm [Good in piaces]. STALLS: Stands side except 1m & 1m1f (inside). DRAW ADVANTAGES: High best for 1m to 1to 1L

DRAW ADVANTAGE: High best for ins to too 1.6.

Eight-hand undulating course with peer-shaped loop.

Racecourse is nouth of town on 87071. Hamilton West railway station (service from Glasgow) is 110 away. ADMESSION: Chib 512, Grandwand and Paddock 57 (54 for OAPs, disabled & students.) dents, £10 for couples); accompanied under-16s free all enclo-Auras. CAR PARE: Free. SLINERED FIRST TIME: Nguere Princess (9,00); Triby (#

sered, 9,30). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Philipper (8.00) won at Newcostle on Wechesday and at Epsons on Priday.

LONG-DESTANCE EUNNERS: Bickenbacker (7.30) has been sent 376 miles by P Chapple-Hyum from Manton, Witshire.

7.00 AKELER DEVELOPMENTS AMATEUR RED-ERS HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,500 added

-00223 3:587 NOS (12) (00) 3 Kestowell 8 12 0 ... Ales 0 Kestowell 3 044416 - Agents: Connec (15) (0) 0 Chapman 5 11 13 ... Alles 6 Clark 2 501-54 TEXPERIMENTEY (18) (CD) D Haydo Jones 4 11 12... 060436 RESIDER TRADER (7) (0) (6F) Mrs. J Remotion 8:11 4:10 (10) (6F) Mrs. J Remotion 8:11 4:11 (10) (6F) Mrs. J Remotion 8:11 4:11 (10) (7) (7) (8F) Mrs. J Remotion (8) 5 V 111.405 ADMINING (11) (D) J Golde 4 11 3 ______ 336420 TROPICAL REACH (8) (CD) (RF) J Berly 4 11 2 ____

Miss Al, Hutchisson (7) 1 6

- 17 Gerland -aum weight, Ser 7th, Time hendisch weight, Diet Ser Gib, Serkus Harry Springer region; and the name of the property region and the same of the St. St. Middle Man Str. St. Senter, S-1. Lent Bob, Tropical Beach, Pullban, 20-1. Septim Corfe, Natural Roy, Johnson, Landing Princess, Amilitaries, Dipt,

7.30 GLENGOYNE SINGLE HIGHLAND MALT CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS C) £10,000

added 1m 1f 36yds 1 1127: RYADIAN (486 P Cols 56 4 7 Quinn 9 2 240-00 UNCONDITIONAL LOVE (5) M July 200 1 1 NAME 13 1 NAME 21 1 NAME 2 8.00 SAINTS AND SINNERS HANDICAP (CLASS D) £10,000 added 1m 65yds 001-43 SCHRABEN (S) (CD) (EF) 8 Kewench 6 9 13 ____) For 335-5 PRIME LIGHT (33) G Wings 4 9 13 KD 510-00 CELEBRATION CAKE (47) (CD) Miss L Petrat 5 9 10...

20 -UDOUS RUPED MANUER (US) (2) D Noinn 20 7 20.....K Shed (3) 20 6
- 20 declared Mightzen neight: 7st 10in. Then handcap weight: Rapid Mover Six Sib.
BETTENG: 9-4 Philiater, 7-1 Scannina, Belle Bijon, Principal Boy, 8-1, Primo
Light, Tabbild, William Wallace, 10-1 others

8.30 HAMILTON ADVERTISER SELLING STAKES (CLASS E) £5,000 added 1m 1f 38yds 555-55 MURRON WALLACE (50) O Hoydn Jones 3 7 13 J. Chargock 3

23 SOURCE MOVER IN STRAING (SOURCE OF SOURCE OF S

9.00 WILCON HOMES EBF MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2YO 6f O5 BURNT YATES (56) M W Emstyby 90 Charnock 6 SUZZ C Thoman 80.

MY LOST LOVE M Johnson 9 0.

OLITSOLINGHIS (LES) (LES) P Cale 9 0.

O SHALYARI (15) Mrs J Remoden 8 6...... — 6 decimed — HETTIMS: 7-2 My Lost Love, Crates Mental, Linnaca, 5-1 Outstarring, 7-1 Shahyah, 10-1 Suret Yestes, 12-1 Shap Shooter, 16-1 others

9.30 TENNENT CALEDONIAN HANDICAP (CLASS D) £6,000 added 1m 5f

04-004 TREEY (11) 6 Richards 4 8 10

-7 declared -SETTING: 11-4 Lord Advocate, 7-2 Silver Pond, 9-2 Shorny, 5-1 Trilly, Cals Na Parraigs, 8-1 Thumderboart, 20-1 Shiftaty

Colle cost Stip per colonic, TLS, ple, Scotters St ECA 475

BENSON AND HEDGES CUP: Home counties pair put their Midlands rivals to the sword to reach Lord's final

Bicknell on the button for Surrey

HENRY BLOFELD reports from The Oval Surrey 308-8 Leicestershire 178 Surrey win by 130 runs

England's recent pre-match planning has extended to Martin Bicknell, whose two Tests were against Australia four years ago. In his 10 overs at the start of Leicestershire's innings, he bowled an excellent line at fast-medium, finding movement both ways and took 4 for 41. This effectively ended Leices-

tershire's interest in the competition, although it would anyway have needed some remarkable batting if they were to have won. Alec Stewart and Graham Thorpe, the engine room of the Surrey batting, had made a Leicestershire victory unlikely with a splendid third-wicket stand of 158 in 32 overs after they had been put in.

Leicestershire had to get off to a good start and they achieved it only insofar as Vince Wells played a lovely cover dri-ve for four in Bicknell's first over. In his second, Darren Maddy played forward to one which left him and was caught behind.

Bicknell, now 28, bowled within himself and with excellent control, keeping the ball up to the bat and bringing the batsmen on to the front foot where they will always be more vulnerable against the new ball when there is any movement.

James Whitaker, who must have regretted his decision to field, also began with a joyful cover drive off Bicknell, but he came forward again to drive the last ball of his fifth over with bat away from pad, and was bowled off the inside edge. That was 28 for 2, and one run later Neil Johnson pushed forward to Chris Lewis

and was caught behind. The score became 32 for 4 when Aftab Habib played a stroke, if one can call it that, which would have won the day's

booby prize. Bicknell, for once. bowled a short one outside the off-stump, Habib stepped across and hung out a limp and pur-poseless hat and gave Thorpe catching practice at first slip. Wells and Greg MacMillan.

who once came down the pitch and smashed Bicknell through extra cover, played a few good strokes. Then, at 68, MacMillan was leg before, half-forward to Ian Salisbury, and, in his last over, Bicknell brought one back which nipped between Wells' bat and pad and hit middle and off. There was no way back for Leicestershire after that.

As it happened, their inning went on longer than it should have done, largely because Thor-pe, of all people, put down an ab-surdly easy catch at extra cover from Paul Nixon nff Ben Hollioake when he was 20. Nixon and Tim Mason stayed to put on 75 cheap and cheerful runs for the ninth wicket, with Nixon going past 50 before Thorpe made amends with two good catches.

Surrey did not begin well either. In the first over after a spanking square cut for four, Alistair Brown flashed at Alan Mullally outside the off-stump and was caught behind. Ben Hollioake announced himself with a square drive and a straight drive off David Millns, but then he hit a lazy on-drive against Mul-lally into the pit of Whitaker's stomach at mid-on. If he had gone through with the stroke, the ball would probably have landed somewhere between Vauxhall and Victoria stations.

Fortunately for Surrey, Stewart and Thorpe now began to bat exactly where they had left off at Edgbaston. Their stand of 158 was the highest for Surrey's third wicket in the competition. Both were then out trying to push it along even faster and the innings ended with some terrific strokes by Adam Hollioake, whose 63 came from 40 balls with four fours and two sixes. It left Leicestershire wringing their hands in more ways than one.

Duckworth-Lewis under fire

Sussex are lodging an official complaint with the English Cricket Board following their farcical Sunday League defeat at Durham this week. The county faced a revised target of 80 in four overs under the complex Duckworth-Lewis system after torrential rain caused a 100minute delay to the match at Chester-le-Street.

Sussex, who lost by 62 runs, are also furious that the 10th over of their innings, the number necessary to ensure a result, was bowled as the heavens opened. Their chief executive, Tony Pigott, said: "The target proved that the Duckworth-Lewis system doesn't work and we played in torrential rain when we should have been off the park."



Kent at a canter

DEREK PRINGLE reports from Canterbury Kent 206-8 Northamptonshire 140 Kent win by 66 runs

A magnificent display of outcricket by Kent gave them a comfortable and deserving victory. Needing 207 for victory, Northamptonshire made a complete hash of chasing a moderate target, never really overcoming the loss of three early wickets as the home side bowled and fielded with purpose and guile. Kent now meet Sursecond Lord's appearance in

three years.
The one-sided nature of this contest came as something of a surprise after Kent, hatting poorly, made a total that looked 30 runs light of being compet-itive. But while both sides had players missing through injury - Mohammad Akram and David Capel for Northamptonshire and Graham Cowdrey for Keni - the tricky pitch,

whose sporadic movement and bounce never allowed the batsmen to settle, meant that Northamptonshire were always chasing the game once Dean Headley had reduced them to 34 for 3 in the 10th over.

Sensing capitulation, the visitors' captain, Roh Bailey, embarked on a severe period of retrenchment in which two runs were scored off 28 halls. It was not the way to keep the run chase ticking over, and the pressure created from such a dilatory scoring rate eventualliantly caught at slip by Alan Wells, as well as Bailey himself, who went caught behind chasing a wide one.

Kent's catching was simply outstanding, a feature exempli-fied by the diving catch made by Matthew Walker off Headley to get rid of the dangerous Kevin Curran. Walker is a chunky figure in the manner of a young Gatting, hut there was undeniable grace, too, as he pulled down the sharp chance at mid-off.

With substantial inroads having been made, Paul Strang. playing with a broken little finger, mopped up the later order. Extracting a fair amount of Paul Reiffel may be thrown turn, the leg-spinner lured Tim Walton and David Sales into injudicious shots.

The day began with a damp patch at one end of the pitch after an overnight storm had leaked under the covers. But although it was too full really to come into play Kent, having been put in by Bailey, batted as if it was a primeval swamp. In particular, their running between the wickets was careless to the point of recklessness, and both Trevor Ward and Nigel Llong were run out as Kent lost

It was not good cricket, especially from Ward whose forceful 78 had done so much to get Kent, at one stage listing on 63 for 4, back into the game. His effort was not a solo one, however, and he had a staunch ally in Mark Ealham who scored a vital 46. Together the pair added 100 for the fifth wicket, a stand that later proved decisive, on a day when batting was never comfortable.

Australians already reaching for Reiffel

straight into today's match against Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge amid growing concerns among Australia's management about the form of their bowling attack.

The 31-year-old pace bowler, a surprise omission from the original party having taken 19 wickets in three Tests on his previous. visit, was due to arrive yesterday to reinforce the tourists after injuries to three key players.

But Reiffel will be given next to no time to acclimatise. Already without Andy Bichel so son Gillespie hroke down with a hamstring injury at Edgbaston and all-rounder Greg Blewett was unable to howl because of

a long-standing knee problem. Furthermore, bowlers Glenn McGrath and Shane Warne both disappointed in the first Test, leaving coach Geoff Marsh with little option hut to throw the jet-lagged Reiffel in today.

"We will obviously talk to Paul when he gets here to see how he is," Marsh said. "We feel practice out in the middle is probably better than just rolling his arm over in the nets. If he is going to be available for selection at Lord's, he is going to need a couple of games under his belt."

Gillespie, restricted to just 10 overs at Edgbaston, is virtually certain to miss the game today and unless he responds to treatment could also be sidelined for this weekend's trip to Leicester, Australia's final match prior to the second Test at Lord's.

"We are not 100 per cent sure about Jason, but I don't think he will play in the Leicester game which will probably rule him out for the Test match," Marsh said. Mark Taylor has decided to

rest himself while Blewett will have further treatment on his injury to allow Michael Slater and Ricky Ponting time at the crease. Adam Gilchrist will take over wicket-keeping duties from Ian Healy, while both Warne and Michael Kasprowicz also drop out to allow the returns of Bichel. Brendon Julian and Reiffel.

Jet-set life such a trial for Norman

ANDY FARRELL reports from Washington

While Tiger Woods took an already frenzied gallery on an early morning tour of the Congressional. Greg Norman was saying how much he has enjoyed the arrival of a new superstar on plane! golf. Presumably, because it allows Norman to get on with his life. You know, like huying a new jet and visiting; your mate downtown in the

lee's

*Adela's fir

dress r

.^{† pl}ayers r

White House.

Hard as he tries, the
42-year-old Australian still rated the No 1 golfer in the world by the official rankings, cannot stay out of the headlines. On Sunday, at the Kemper Open, Norman gestured in none too polite a fashion at a spectator, who he thought had said: "Chunk it in the water". The day before. Norman tore a strip off the first tee announcer, who told the gallery politely 10 decline any offer to see the Shark's trophy cabinet.

This was a reference to President Bill Clinton's accident at Norman's home earlier this year, in which he injured a knee. Norman suddenly developed a publicity shyness over the incident and yesterday, apart from smarting over being described in the Washington Post as "that ill-tempered Aussie" and "Mr Sensitivo", was. doing a hit of spin doctoring.

The President says he feels great and he's lost 30 pounds, which he thanked me for,"
Norman said. "A couple of his staff came up to me and said:
That's the best thing that ever happened to him. Don't worry about it hecause it slowed him down for a couple of months."

The Norman family popped.

into the White House on Monday and got a personalised tour from the big chief. "My children are US citizens and it was a wonderful day for my family," Norman said. Not even Morgan-Leigh and Greg Inc could believe it when their inther told them he was about to huy a new plane, a Bocing 737-700 costing \$32m (£20m), not including the \$6m worth of

refinements to add an office,

bedrooms for himself and his staff and a work-out area. Part of the cost will he offset by a separate deal in which Norman, who reckons he travels 10 times around the world every year, will become a roving ambassador for Boeing Business Jets. As for his present G4 Gulfstream, Norman might try to sell that to Ian Woosnam. with whom he is paired tomorrow. Costantino Rocca, of Italy, will not be teeing off on Thursday, however, after withdrawing due to an unspecified muscle

Men at work.



(See above).



CRICKET SCOREBOARD Benson and Hedges Cup Semi-finals

Kent v Northamptonshire CANTERBURY: Kent won by 66 runs.

"15 A Marsh not out
- 13 V MS/31 UCK OUT
M J McCague not out
Extras (th9 w7 nb2)
Total (for 8, 50 overs)2
Extras (b) w7 nb21 Total (for 8, 50 overs)
8-170.
Did not but: D W Headley.
Bowling: Teylor 10-1-31-2; Foilett 5-0-30-2; C
BOWING 1840 10 1-31-2 FOREE 5-0-30-2 C
ran 5-0-27-0; Penberthy 10-1-34-1; Emburey 1
1-35-1; Srape 10-0-40-0.
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
tR J Warren b Headley
M. D. Landon
M B Loye the b Headley *R J Bailey c Marsh b McCague
-H 1 Earleh C Water D Worlding " " " "
K M Curran & Walker & Headley
K M Curran c Walker b Headley
7 C Walton & Fulton b Strang
7 C Walton c Fulton b Strang
J N Snape c Llong b Strang
JE Emburey not out
I P Taylor o Fulton b Strang
D Follett c Strang b Eatham
Extras (63 v3 nb6)
Total //d mane)
Total (46 overs)
MIE 1-5 2-24 3-34 4-59 5-79 6-94 7-107

Surrey v Leicestershire THE OVAL: Serrey won by 130 runs. Leicestershire won toss

Bowling: Multaly 10-0-53-2; Milins 7-0-43-0; Wells 8-0-38-1; Johnson 7-0-58-2; Mason 10-0-55-1; Oslon 8-0-54-0, LECESTERSHIRE c Stavent b Lewis

Costcutter Cup Semi-final **Durbam v Scotland** Scotland won toss

DURHAM J.J.B.Lawis c and b Beven

TETLEV'S CHALLENGE SERIES (First day of three, 11.0): Front Bridge: Notanghamster v rugate Duriem v Gouescepture.
SECOND JO. CHAMPLONSHIP (First day of three, 11.0): Roceater (Abbusholme School): Derbyshae v Motherac. Weldord: Esser v Leconstrict. Ametantord: Gamorgen v Notringhamshae. Flechampshaed: Hampshire v Notrhemptorehre, Southport Langeshre v Coursessite. Cheene Surrey Wockstershre.

TODAY S FIXTURES

Football WORLD CUP GROUP EIGHT leatand v Lithuania (9.0) (at Laugardalsvällur stadium, Reykjavik)

Rugby Union TOUR MATCH: Gauteng Lions v Lione (6.15)

Uniplines D J Constant and J H Hams,
AON RISK TROPHY (One day): Ebbw Valle: Som-reset 112 (A R Burcher 5-25); Gernorgan 116 for 4, Glasnorgan won by atx wickers. Shenley Parks MCC Young Conserses 313 for 5 (R D Pe-rese 95). MCC won by 40 runs. Steathers Md-dieser 265 for 4 (D) Goodchul 85no, K P Dunch 54, D C Nash 52not; Menor Cournes 229 (R o Physics 1021 P Bioconsist 6-45). Middlenest won by 36 runs. Worksop Collegic Durham 178 (D A Biochron 52). Notamparensher 180 for 1 (G E Walton 90not. Nottlinghamsehlre won by nine wickets.

Speedway

Eure League Kngs Lynn v Eastbourne (7 AS).

PREMER League Hull v Geogow 17 -30): Long
Geon v Cadord (7 -30). IDUAL: Battle of Britain Trophy (Poole). Other sports

(Cruber say).

SWIMMEND: Scottash Championships (Glasgow)

TENNES: Stata Artos men's tournament, iQueen
Club, London): DFS Cleasic women's tournament

Rowell names strongest squad

Rugby Union

Jack Rowell, the England coach, has selected his strongest possible squad to face Australia in Sydney on 12 July. The 36-man party will see England's original squad for the recent Argentina tour reinforced by the return of several Lions from the tour of South Africa.

Mike Catt, the Bath stand-

off, and lock Nigel Redman are recalled by Rowell, having left England's four last week to inin the Lions as replacements.

Rodman goes

walkabout in

Las Vegas

some steam "

do that," he said.

and was relaxing. I got rid of this

bad taste in my mouth. I had to

against, for example, Fiji, Italy,

Argentina or Western Samoa. The New Zealand Maoris shut out Ireland's tourists in the second half to secure a comfortable 41-10 win in Palmerston North. The Maoris outscored their opponents by four tries to

Scottish Rugby Union offi-cials have secured a £500,000 one in a stop-start match played in constant drizzle. The frequent whistling of Southland referee three-year agreement with BBC Scotland on domestic broad-Paul MacFie also contributed to casting rights for club rugby. The a disappointing spectacle. The deal includes coverage of club league and cup matches, the Euofficial frustrated the Irishmen, who found themselves on the ropean qualifying tournament and Scotland internationals wrong end of a penalty count and were in trouble at virtually every hreakdown.

every hreakdown.

ENGLAND SQUAD (v Australia, Sydney, 12
July; Rull-backs: T Stimpson (Newcasile Facors), N Beal (Northampton), Wings: A Atebayo (Bath), J Stelgirtholme (Bath), R
Underwood (Newcasile), Centres: P de
Glanwille (capt. Bath), N Greenstock (Wagso),
W Greenwood (Lenesser), J Guscott (Bath),
Stand-offis: M Catt (Bath), P Grayaon
(Northempton), A King (Wagso), M Maspletoft
(Gloucester), Scrum-halte: K Bracken

Matthew Elliott, is another who could be facing disciplinary ac-

tion. Elliott publicly criticised the referee, David Campbell, af-

ter the Penrith game for his le-

nient attitude to some persistent

high tackling from the Australian side. The director of referees. Greg McCallum is privately furious that Elliott, in

trouble before for similar re-

marks, should have sounded off

again and the Bulls coach could

McCallum has also instruct

ed referees in the World Club

Championship to administer

the laws at the play-the-ball

more strictly. Coaches of British

sides have been complaining

that Australasian teams have

been getting away with illegal-

The St Helens captain, Bob-

bie Goulding, is out of the rest

of the first phase of the World

Club Championship. Goulding

has decided to bring forward an

operation on a hernia that has

face a heavy fine.

ities in this area.

لمكذا من ألاصل

against life ban

Basketball

Dennis Rodman has upset his Chicago Bulls team-mates after heading off for Las Vegas following the defeat on Sunday that left the Bulls tied at 2-2 against Utah Jazz in the NBA finals. Scottie Pippen was not too

happy, for one. "We don't have any control of what Dennis does off the court," he said. You would think that he would want to start to look and evaluate what's going on on the court with himself, but it's his preference what he wants to do after the game."
The Bulk' coach, Phil Jackson,

said: "I didn't endorse where he went. I thought maybe he was going to the state line. He made it beyond that. Dennis is the kind of person that needs to blow off Rodman made no apologies. I went out and had a good time

The Bradford

Blease plans appeal

club and soliciturs over the weekend, Blease has decided to appeal for more lenient treatment in view of his good disciplinary record in over a decade as a professional.

Two players in the World Club Championship, Anthony Swann of Auckland and Penrith's Matt Adamson, have been banned for one game. Swann was placed on report for use of the knee on St Helens' Andy Haigh last Friday, while Adamson was reported for a high tackle during Monday night's victory

Rugby League DAVE HADFIELD

The Salford forward Ian Blease, is to appeal against the severi-ty of his life ban from the game. The former Salford captain was hanned sine die last week for striking a touch judge during an Alliance game at Bradford.

After discussions with his

over Bradford.

Saracens), M Demoon (Northampton), A Go-mersell (Wasps), A Healey (Lenester), Proper D Garforth (Lenester), I Leonard (Harlequire), G Rowntree (Leicester), K Yates (Berly, Hoode-ers: R Coctorfil (Leicester), P Greening (Gloucester), M Regan (Bristol), Locks: M Hang (Berly, M Johnson (Leicester), N Red-man (Berly, M Johnson (Leicester), N Rod-man (Berly, M Johnson (Leicester), M Cor-ry (Bristol), L Dellingilio (Wasps), R Hill (Sera-cens), No. 8x: T Diprope (Saracens), T Rodber (Northampton), C Sheesby (Weeps),

■ The glass manufacturing company Pilkington has ended its nine-year sponsorship deal with the Rugby Football Union, after offering to withdraw from the remaining two years of its contract if an alternative company wished to step in.

> TODAY'S NUMBER £10,000

The size of the bet placed yes-terday on Tiger Woods to win the US Open, which begins tomorrow. The bet placed by a pumer in Southend, immediately led battbrokes to cut. the odds from 5.1 to 4-1, and is is the fargest on golf ever placed with 200 pokes.



troubled him for some time.

COUNTY ROUND UP

0891 525 075 Calle cost Gip per-exists at all firms. A product of Till Ltd.

Stone may not be ready for action until October

Football

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Glocas Cooper

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TOMMY STANIFORTH

Nottingham Forest's England midfielder Steve Stone is undergoing a spell at the Football Association's rehabilitation centre at Lilleshall as he tries to recover from a persistent knee

Stone has been out of action since suffering a freak injury

snapped patella tendon forced him to miss Forest's vain fight against relegation. He has already ruled out the possibility of a return to action in time for the 1997-98 kick-off in August but is now stepping up his re-

hahilitation programme. Stone said: "I am hoping to join in with the pre-season work with the rest of the lads but you are probably realistically looking at September or Octoagainst Leicester at the City ber before I am availa first-team football." ber before I am available to play

Stone's enforced absence was one reason for Forest's demise, but he is confident they have the ambition and spending power to make a strong push for an instant return to the top flight.

The Nigel Wray, Phil Soar and Irving Scholar consortium made £17m available for new signings when they took charge in February and the only major outlay so far has been £4.5m for the striker Pierre van Hooijdonk from Celtic. Stone added: "The club didn't spend all the money that was available before the transfer deadline in March because they didn't want to get in people who maybe they didn't want in the long run. But Pierre van Hooijdonk looked a good acquisition and we are hoping

Lulia Ida

quickly as possible from the disappointment of relegation." The Birmingham City manager, Trevor Francis, must wait until next month to see if his club-record £2.5m hid for the Stoke striker, Mike Sheron, has

the club will bounce back as

been successful. Stoke will not committing themselves to new do any transfer business until they have appointed a successor to Lou Macari as manager at the Victoria Ground.

Coates, said: "Mike is still a Stoke player and we have made the position quite clear. We have had offers for him, but the matter will be left until we have appointed a new manager,"

The Derby County manager, Jim Smith, has received a welcome boost with two players

long-term deals at the club. The defender Gary Rowett, 23, has signed a new four-year deal while the 25-year-old midfield-Stoke's chairman, Peter er Paul Trollope has signed a

contract which will keep him with the Rams until the year 2000. Aston Vilia's record signing. Stan Collymore, will make his first appearance for the cluh in this country in a pre-season friendly against Wycombe Wanderers at Adams Park on 18

July. The appearance of Colly-

more is expected to guarantee a bumper crowd for the Second Division club as Villa (ans travel down the M40 to see Brian Little's £7m signing from Liverpool for the first time.

Collymore has already worn a Villa shirt when he appeared - and scored - during their end of season tour of the United States last month. Wycombe are managed by the former Villa coach, John Gregory, who saved the club from relegating last season, and Little said: "It

should be a nice way for Stan to start his career in this country. Villa have away games against Partick Thistle and Motherwell, while on 28 July they play at Kidderminster Harriers in a testi-monial fur the GM Vauxhall

Conference cluh's long-serving manager, Graham Allner. Little, meanwhile, will return from holiday in Spain at the end uf the week to step up his plans to bring in further new hlood - he has around £15m at his disposal.

Lee's feat keeps Henman company

MATT TENCH reports from Queen's Club

On the day that Tim Henman reached the third round of a tournament for the first time in nearly four months, his thunder was stolen by a Briton three years his junior for whom playing in any round of a senior tournament is something of a

Martin Lee is 19, supports Millwall, and sports a yellow and blue shirt that gives football kit manufacturers a bad name. If you saw him in the street you might think he was a callow teenager who looked at the ground too much. But the Londoner was the best young player in the world a year ago, has a brilliant natural talent, and after a period of adjustment is using the Stella Artois

Championships to announce it to his elders, but not necessarily betters. On Monday he beat Andrei Olhovskiy, the Russian grass-court specialist who is ranked 354 places above him at 146. That victory was Lee's best for precisely 24 hours, because he yesterday dispatched the American Alex O'Brien, the world No.34, to claim an unlikely place in the third round. Much more of this and Henman and Greg Rusedski may soon have another Briton joining them in the game's upper reaches.

As has become his custom, Lee indulged in the sophisticated psychological ploy of "I'm getting mentally dropping the first set against tougher." Lee said. "In quite a

of security stakes. O'Brien, for whom the word solid summed up his appearance and his game, took the set gratefully, vo-

ciferously supported by a small group in the front row for whom there appears to be a small corner of a foreign field that will be forever Texas. Lee responded by hreaking

O'Brien in the first game of the second set, but was immediately broken back, and while the left-hander displayed a far greater range of shots, O'Brien's experience prevented a second breakthrough. The crucial moment came with Lee trailing 0-30 at 5-5 when the umpire overruled a line call which would have granted the American three break points. O'Brien was infuriated, but Lee kept his cool and won the next four points. "That really geed me up." Lee said. And he went on to win the tie-hreak.

After another exchange of breaks in the final set, Lee, who like just about every other British tennis player these days looks like he could do with a square meal or two, made a decisive move at 4-4 when a lovely running backhand converted his third break point. He served out comfortably and his 3-6, 7-6, 6-4 victory was greeted with raucous applause on Court One, though O Brien left still complaining bitterly about the

O'Brien, though yesterday's 6-3 reverse was hardly in Monday's 6-0 class in the false sense But I felt very confident today." But I felt very confident today." Henman was one of many fel-

low countrymen impressed by Lee's performances this week. They show a lot of character. This is a breakthrough for him,"

Having begun the week with 46 points, Lee will soar up the rankings having already gained another 34 here. His next opponent is likely to he Goran Ivanisevic, against whom Henman had just one piece of ad-vice: "Hold your own serve."

Henman himself adopted the Lee route to victory, dropping the first set before beating Andrew Richardson 4-6, 6-3, 6-2. It was a welcome return to form for the 22-year-old who has struggled since his elbow injury, losing three out of four matches on clay. In his fellow Briton, Henman

knew he faced an opponent who knew his game intimately from the hours the two have spent on the practice court together. They are old friends, and even ate together beforehand, hut once the match started neither betrayed any sign of undue amiability. "Out there, it's husiness," Henman said.

Business went Richardson's way early on hat once Henman had adapted to the blustery conditions his sharper volleying brought a comfortable victory. With Henman and Lee through Briton had two players in the third round for the first time in the history of these champi-



Martin Lee fires a return at Alex O'Brien on his way to victory at Queen's Club yesterday

iodacco dan "to cost

Europe eight races'

Transfer row for **Venables**

Terry Venables is facing another controversy, which could conceivably cost him his job as the Soccer Australia coach, after allegations he was involved in transfers of Australian internationals to Portsmouth, a club he is chairman of and partly owns. Several Australian clubs are to draft letters of complaint to

the Soccer Australia board alleging a conflict of interest by Venables. The clubs are citing a 1994 report about alleged corruption in transfer dealings. The report, written by Donald Stewart, a former Supreme Court judge, incorporates a Soccer Australia code of conduct of that covers players and officials. Any breach of it is subject to disciplinary action. In part it says squad members, including coaches, shall not involve themselves in any way in transfers of any player eligible to play for Australia to an overseus club.

Portsmouth are believed to be buying at least three members of the Australian national squad, including the former Leicester and Wolves goalkeeper. Zeljko Kalac, the midfielder Robert Enes, the utility player Hamilton Thorp, and, possibly, a defender, Matthew Bingley. The Pompey manager, Terry Fenvick, watched the players un videotapes given to him by Venables, who said: "There's no conflict in me being chairman of Pompey and coach of the Australian national side. Terry Ferwick has made the decisions on these players. I just sent him some tapes and he looked over them.

The letters of complaint will be discussed by the Soccer Australia board later this month.

*Adela's fine figure in dress rehearsal

Sailing

It was almost the same as 146 years ago in the Solent yesterday as, in solitary splendour, the 170ft schooner Adela powered her way to the Royal Yacht

STUART ALEXANDER

Squadron finishing line at Cowes after racing round the Isle of Wight. In time-honoured tradition there was no second. the next boat being but a shape appearing out of the gloom, miles behind at Yarmouth. On the wheel was America's

best-known skipper, Dennis Couner, at his shoulder Britain's Peter Bateman, and strewn all over the lovingly laid teak decks, and in the warmly teanelled interior below, were tearly 50 crew and guests.

There was little to console the British in 1851 when the schooner America, on 27 August, beat the best of Britannia towin the 100-guinea cup that was to be turned by the New York Yacht Club into the Amer-

She, too, won easily in a project to prove that the new world could beat the old. At least Adela was built in Britain, recently restored at the Pendennis shipyard in Falmouth and modified from the 1903 version designed by William Storey and

built at Northam, Southampton.
In a grandstand finish, beating along the green into 12 knots just south of east, the towering sails made the houses seem small as the cannon signalled a time of 6hr 4min. It was over an hour before the next yacht, the 135ft Sariyah finished. The next pair, the 183ft three-masted Adix, built in Spain in 1984, and the 135ft Mariette, built by Nat Herreshoff, were separated by 69 years in age but only 62sec on the water and Mariette start-

ed 20min after Adix. Rich men's placings, it seems, do not change. But this time the replica of the schooner America was last of the nine to complete the east-about 50-mile course in what was also a dress rehearsal for a 150th anniversary race in 2001.

American pair may defy IAAF

third place, but was later second day left the way open for

SPORTING DIGEST

Athletics

Mary Slaney and Sandra Farmer-Patrick, who have been suspended by the International Amateur Athletic Federation for alleged drug use, may both still compete in the US Cham-pionships which begin today at Indiana University.

Slaney has been entered in the 1500 metres and 3,000m, while Farmer-Patrick is due to run the 400m hurdles. They con-

Carlos Sainz, of Spain, raced into contention for a third world championship title yes-

terday when Juha Kankkunen

was ordered to pull over to let

his senior Ford team-mate win

the Acropolis Rally in Greece.

Sainz crossed the line for his

first victory this season, beating

the Finn, who had led for most

of the race, by 17 seconds.

if USA Track and Field, the governing body in America, denies them the right to compete they to enter, the IAAF might threaten to suspend any athlete who competes against them. "I have not yet made a deci-

sion," Slaney, who has been carrying an injury, said. "My leg's feeling better, but I'm not sure about that other stuff." Farmer-Patrick was more certain. "Most

and it is a wonderful day for everyone in the team," Sainz,

the world champion in 1990 and

dropped to back to fourth be-hind the reigning world champ-

ion, Tommi Makinen, after

Sainz's victory saw him close

to within 14 points of the current

incurring two time penalties.

Britain's Richard Burns, in a

test the ruling by the IAAF, hut definitely, I will declare [for the ed his innocence and is applymeeting]," she said. "I hope they will allow me to compete." The meeting determines the US could go to court. If USATF al- team for the World Champilows Slaney or Farmer-Patrick onships in Athens in August.

The British shot putter Paul Edwards, banned and sent home from the 1994 Commonwealth Games after failing a drugs test, will find out on Friday whether he can return to international competition in preparation for

the World Championships. Edwards has always protest-

Briton, Colin McRac, after eight

rounds of the championship.

McRae's retirement on the sec-ond stage and Makinen's tyre

Mitsuhishi, was initially given and driveshaft problems on the gap steadily over the final day third place, but was later second day left the way open for to move to within 16 seconds of

Ford's and Sainz's first win since

losing more than a minute on

Sainz had spent much of the

the first day when he slid into a Portugal in 1993.

Indonesia last year.

ing to the High Court to allow him to return 14 months early. Edwards is claiming it was illegal for him to be treated differently to German and French athletes who have been reinstated under their own national laws after just two years of

initial four-year bans. Liz McColgan is to attempt to hreak the British 10 mile record in this year's BUPA Great South Run in Portsmouth

fastest time on six of the day's

seven stages to start the final leg

The Spaniard reduced that

37 seconds behind Kankkunen.

the lead on the 18th stage, be-

fore Kankkunen allowed him to take the lead. The Finn came

first one-two since the Rally of

sario, Bernie Ecclestone. "Italy will lose Monza and on 5 October. Imola, but without these spondying," Ecclestone said in an in-terview published Tuesday in the Kankkunen lets Sainz through to win

Turin newspaper La Stampa. La Stampa is controlled by the Agnelli family, which also owns Fiat, the car manufactur-"This result proves many things leader, Makinen, in a Mitsubishi bank on the fourth stage. On the and it is a wonderful day for and left him four behind another second day, though, he set the er, and its Ferrari subsidiary. Ecclestone said the number

Motor racing

Growing pressure to ban to-

bacco advertising could cost western Europe all but four of its Formula One races, includ-

ing the two in Italy, according

to the Formula One impre-

of Formula One races in western Europe could dwindle to from 12 to four if tobacco companies are prohibited from advertising.
"Without this financing,

rally behind Kankkunen, after home second to give Ford their he told La Stampa.

some major teams couldn't continue their sporting activities, Williams, who have won eight Formula One constructors' ti-

tles - including four of the last five, has Rothmans cigarettes as its title sponsor, and Marlboro sponsors the annual Grand Prix Guide.

Few other industries, Ecclestone added, can afford to spend as much as the tobacco companies. "If they have to abandon the field, it would be a disaster," he said.

The anti-smoking movement sors all courses are in danger of dying." Ecclestone said in an ingovernment pledged to ban tobacco advertising in Britain. Ecclestone has been waging a counter-offensive, warning of the dire consequences for Europe of the loss of tobacco

sponsorship. We have the right to cancel any [Formula One] race when the running of the race, for whatever reason, is put in danger," said Ecclestone, who is also a vice president of the international motor-racing federation, the FIA. "In a case where the sponsors would no longer get a decent return, we'd have to reconsider our schedule."

Top players make return to the Pyramids

The world's top players return to the sport's most spectacular setting today for the Al Ahram Inlemational championships in Camp. Last year's inaugural event, staged on an open-air, illuminated court against the backstrop of the Pyramids, re-

REDCAR

REDCAR

2.00: 1. HINDLEN (D Sweetey) 3.1; 2. Ams
And A Ling 13.8 for 3. Greenbrook 25-1, 9
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24.40; 61.40, 61.10, 65.30. Dr. 63.50. CSP:
63.20. ting 535.80. Robe's Cracker (4-1) with
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Cry 11-2; 3. Benesteen 8-1, 9 ren. 11-4 for
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122.70.
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10: 1.00: 2. Good Hand 5-6 fast 3. Langurett 1611-10: 2. Jan. CSP. £21.2.
11-10: 2. Jan. CSP. £21.2.
11-10: 2. Jan. CSP. £21.2.
11-10: 2. Jan. £21.2.

4.00: 1. CURRENIAN CARRISO () Carcil) 25-4.00: 1. CURRENIAN CARRISO () Carcil) 25-1; 2. Dorham Piyer 20-1; 2. Mountain Song 8-11 to; 33 nm. ½, sht-nt. († Easterby). Total:

sulted in unprecedented media attention which helped make it the sport's richest tournament.

The event received even more attention when Egypt's top play-er, Ahmed Barada, then only 19 and a wild-card entry, beat the world No 2, Rodney Eyles, and the No 7, Chris Walker, on his way to the final. But he was beat-

RACING RESULTS

A CIN G RESULTS

522.90: £5.80. £2.50. £1.20. DF: £54.80. CSF: £380.44. Tinz: £36.10. NR: Lend A Hand. 4.30: 1. WHO'S THAT MAN (K Dadley) 7. 1: 2. Sparley 9-2: 3. Toucht'n'gs 8-1: 4. Ninel-to 12-1. 17 ram. 7-2 for Festimator Flood (5th). Int. B. (S Walerma). Titler: £25.0: £1.60. £

en in straight games in the final by Jansher Khan who is favourite to retain his title.

He is scheduled to meet Eyles in this year's final, although the Australian is on course to play Barada again in the last eight. Scotland's Peter Nicol, the No 3 seed, is drawn to face Eyles in the semi-finals.

3.48: 1. PURPLE FLINS (D Holland) 6-1; 2. Detta Solelli 11-2; 3. Str Joop-9-4 tov. 8 ras. nl. 1½ (I G Cottrell, Tete: 58.20: 52.00, 52.00, 51.40, DF: 521.80, GSF: 535.79, Ta-

22.00, 21.40, 12.20 CONTROL 188.33. 4.15: 1 NORSONG (A Clerk) 8-1; 2-COURSEOUS Mulget 10-1; 3. Rook The Bar-say 9-2; 4. Chief Predetor 10-1, 20 ras. 4-1 few Sun of Sportg. 4, 14, (R Abehuss). Total £10.70; £2.60, £5.50, £1.30, £2.50, DF: £149.60, CSP, £82.10, Treast £373.40, Treast 752.70.

£149.60. CSF: £82.10. Treast: £373.40. No. £387.90.
4.48: 1. CHAGEFOWN FLYER (B Doyld) 331: 2. Send Cay 14-1: 3. First Chande 25-1: 14. Agent Nutrier 4-1 tev. 18 ran. 1. 1/4. No. 19. Ros. 1/4. No. 19. R

Jackpot: not won (£25,585,74 to Boyerky to-day). Placepot: £563,70. Quadpot: £8,40. Place & £583,91. Place 5: £119,32.

Desmond Witbool, the South African marathon runner, has been banned for four years after testing positive for an anabolic steroid. Witbool, 24, failed a drugs test after finishing fifth in February's Cape Town marathon. He represented South Africa at the 1996 African Marathon Championships. The first National Championships for people with learning disabilities will be held in Leeds on Saturday 28 June. Sever-al members of the British Paralympic team that competed in Atlanta last year will be among the competitors at South

AMERICAN LENGUE Belamore 10 Chicago White Sox 2; Anchorn 12 Kansas Chy 5. MATIONAL LENGUE: Los Angeles 2 Houston 3; New York Mets 4 Concinnas 2; Montreal 6 Chica-go Cubs 5; Coloredo B Adenta 3; St Louis 9 San Diego 1; San Francisco 7 Florido 4.

Baskethali

Manchester Glants yesterday signed the English forward Delme Hemman on a one-year contract. The 24-year-old, who has recently returned from playing in italy and the United States, is the first sign-ing by the Glarts' newly appointed head coach, Jim Brandon. WOLLD'S EIROPEN CHAMPIONSHIP Final round (Hungary) Broup A (Zaleogenzag): Liftuan 73 Urane 70, Group B (Pees); Rus-sa 58 Moldon 53,

OTTOUR MUTCH (St. John"s, Antigue) Second day of three: St. Lanes 192 for 6 dec and 213 for 1 (R Arnold 104ng; M Ampetry 90no); Lebward Lands 148 (M Murshipers 4-34). AON RISK TROPISY (One-day matches; Mos-

day): Auton Unity: Warencishere 182 for 9 (A Thomas 4-33): Lecestershere 184 for 3 (D Severs 71:00 Ledostershire wone by seven wickests. Eastbourner Kert 177 (R W T Key 56; 1) Berts 5-42): Sauset 181 for 5 (J P Pyenoru. 52, TA Radiord Sino) Senses won by five wick-ets. Old Trafford: Yorkshire 266 for 7 (A Mc-Grath 78): Lanceshire 180 (N T Wood 50) Vorlegitins won by 86 rams.

Cycling
DAIPHNE LIBERT RACE First stage (187km, Generable to Yilisuurbeamp): 1, D Abduzhaperov (Libek, Lond) 44v 21mm 47sec; 2 G Lombards (I. Teleborni: 3 F Monasson (F. GAN): 4 G Fosor (Can, Mutuelle Same et Marner; 8 P Gaumort (Fr, Cohole); 8 N Islahert (Fr, Cohole): 7 S Barthe (Fr, Casnori): 8 A Bath (II. Lis Possal: 9 J Neers (Netr. Rabobaris): 10 D Nazon (Fr, Françase des Jeau) als Zame truet. Leading over all extendingle: 1 C Boardman (10), GAN: 4hr (27mm 37sec; 2 A Zide (Sec. DNC): 4 3ec; 3 Y Yelumbo (Rus, US Possal): 4 P Gaumort (Fr, Coholes toth same time; S A Daho (So. Bamesto): 4 C; 6 J Y Gerca (So. Barcesto): 4 T; 7 E Detker (Neth, Rabobaris) same time; 8 A Bath (II. US Possal): 4 S 6 I Sected (Fr, Festiva) same time; 8 A Bath (II. US Possal): 4 S 6 I Sected (Fr, Festiva) same time; 10 M Boogled (Neth, Rebobaris) + 11.

Football

Brigation have submitted plans for a £25m sports and leisure complex on council-owned playing fields on the outskirts of the town. The ambitious deskirts of the town. The amounts be-velopment at Waterhall, currently occupied by Brighton rugby club, is amed at building a multi-purpose sta-dium for the whole community. A 15,000 all-seat statium, eventually rising to 8 capacity of 25,000, could become the new shared home for the Seaguils, but they have yet to sacure a ground for next season.

Hereford United have submitted plans to South Herefordshire District Council to build a £5m 10,000 all-seat stadi-

city. United, relegated from the Foot-ball League last month, would need to spend £2.5m to upgrade their Edgar Street ground to meet League re-quirements if they were to win the GM Vaushall Conference.

PORTUGUESE CUP Final (Liebon): Bentica 2 (Calado 35, O-Hadnous 70; Bosesta 2 (Senchez 7, pen 65, Gomes 30).

WOMEN'S WORLD RANGEMES: 1 A Sorenstam (Swe) 489.72; 2 L Dawes (GB) 445.82; 3 K Webb (Aust 413.80; 4 K Robbuss US; 251.13; 8 L Neumann (Swe) 235.60; 6 II Pepper (IS) 227.15; 7 M McGarm (IS) 209.44; 8 J Geddes (US) 189.20; 9 E News (US) 156.46; 10 M Mellon (US) 152.51; 11 A Fukerhama (Japan) 152.03, Selectad: 13 T Johnson 45.45; 17 I Nachny 122.48; 19 A Richolds 114.00; 34 J Morky 87.78.

Railying
AGROPOLIS RALLY (Athens, Gr) Landing 8-not positions: 1 C Sanz (Sp) Ford 4th 56/min 24set; 2 J Harkfurnen Frin Ford 4-56/41; 37 Massens (Frin) Massachet 5-01:27; 4 R Burns (GB) Mitsubsin 5-01:31; 5 7 Radstorn (Swe) Toyota 5-04:11; 6 U Natel (Ge) Mitsubsin 5-05-26; 7 G da Mense (Bel) Ford 5-07-49; 8 Y Sekura (Jepen) Subaru 5-11:15; 9 A Voyos (Gr) Subaru 5-12:05; 10 L Kirkos (Gr) Ford 5-14-23

Ritgly League
VISA WORD CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP Pool A:
Bradford Bulls (16) 16, Pendith (6) 20. Bradford: Tries Peacoch, Scales, Sprace; Bouls McNamus 2. Pearlith: Tales Bram, Domic,
Gattler, Jorgerson; Gouls Gedler 2. (14,378).

Ringthy Union
INTERNATIONAL MATCH (Cape Toxo): South
Africa 74 Tongs 10.

AMARTER LEAGUE: Postponed: St Austell v Po-terborough. Irestaging Tuesday 17 June) MONDAY'S LATE RESILUS: Elite Langue: Wolseyhargon 51, Peterborough 39, Premier Langue: Reading 49 Arena Essex 41.

Squash

CAPARIMENT INTERDIATIONAL CHAMPHONSHIPS (Carlo) Final qualifying round: S Castelyn (Bolt to J Neepp (Aus) 10-15 15-12 15-11 11-15 15-8: C Mapmick (SA) 14-17 15-13 15-12 15-5; P Marshall (Eng) bt.) Dass (Eng) 15-9 15-2 15-4: A Strabura (Eg) bt.) Dass (Eng) 15-9 15-2 15-4: A Strabura (Eg) bt.) Macdongs (Eng) 15-11 15-5 15-12; J Marchael (Aus) bt. W hattan (Eg) 15-10 15-11 15-5; T Garner (Eng) bt. M Zamma Galt (Pas) 11-15-17: 15-18-12-14-17 15-6; A Gough (Mail) bt. N Taylor (Eng) 15-12 15-7 15-8; D Exerts (Mail) bt. Dast (Neth) 17-14-15-5 15-10.

Monica Seles has made a late entry into the Direct Line International Champion-ships which begin at Devonshire Park, Eastbourne, on 16 June.

Andrew Richardson, beasen by Tim Hen-man at Queen's Chub yesterday, is one of 11 British players who have been giv-en wild cards for the singles events at Wimbledon, which begins on 23 June. Mark Petchey, Chris Wilkinson, Danny Sapsbod and Luke Milligan for the men's singles and Sam Smith, Shriti-Ann Ski-dati, Claire Taylor, Lucle Ahi, Julie Putlin and Clare Wood for the women's sin-gles. Pat Cash, the 1987 Wimbledon chamolon from Australia. has also champion from Australia, has also been given a wild card for the qualify-

Deen given a wild card for the quality-ing competition at Roehampton.

STELLA ARTOS CHAMPONERS (Queen's Carb, London) Singles, first round: D Nester (Carb bt F Dekard (Beb 6-7 6-4 6-2 5 Semin (Fr) bt J Semennic (Neth) 6-4 6-0: B Black (Zm) bt N Marques (Por) 6-3 7-6; C Polane (Fr) bt N Carbon Deal 7-5-46-5-2 Debarte (Fr) bt J Gimelgoob (US)

6-3 T-Ker K Ulyett (SA) bt A volkov (Rus) 2-6 6-3 6-3: T Woodsnidge (Aust) bt J-A Merry Soo 6-4 7-6: B Steven (N2) bt M Goeliner (Ger) 4-5 6-1 6-4: D Floch (15) bt B Magner (US) 6-4 6-3 Sectoral reward: M Lee (GB) bt A O'Bren (US) 3-6 7-6 6-4: 7 Hernman (GB) bt A Richardson (GB) 4-6 6-3 6-2; J-P Fleuran (Fr) bt C Public Fr) 6-7 7-6. Doublies, First round feelectedly: M Goeliner (Ger) and G Rusedsio (GB) bt P Nuber-ry (Aus) and M Tobbutt (Aus) 8-3 6-3; T Her-man (GB) and P Samons (US) bt A Kutmov (Rus) and N Marques (Por) 6-3 6-4.

end n Marques (non 6-3 6-4).

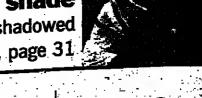
Singles, first round: Y Kaleinikov (Rus) bt S
Schallen (Neth 8-0 & T Hass (Ger) bt B UAhrach
(C Repo 6-1 8-2 N Nether (Ber) bt J Grabb (US)
6-3 6-2; B Besker (Ger) bt A Radulessu (Ger)
7-8; M Soch (Ger) bt B Nethaucher (Ger) 4-6 7-5
6-2; H Dejelvmann (Ger) bt F Stauder (Ger) 6-6
6-1; I Muster (Aul) bt D Prinosi (Ger) 3-6 1-0
ret.

DES CLASSIC WOMEN'S GRASS-COURT TOUR-MAMENT (Priory Cash, Edginschor) Seudes, first tramet E Collery (Bol) bt C Moreau (US) 6:34-6 8-8: N Archit (US) bt L Whit (US) 6:34-6 8-9: N Archit (US) bt L Whit (US) 6:34-6 8-9: N Ormann (Not) bt M Goybowska (Pol) 6-3:36 60-0 Berbarachikova (Bela) bt S Dake-Buckman (Not) 8-4 5-7 6-1: B Scoth bt S Park (Kot) 6-4 6-4: N All tr C Taylor 6-4 8-1; N-A Guse (Not) bt A Elected (Aus) 6-0 8-0: W Probes (Bor) bt S Parks (Bot) 6-0 8-0: W Probes (Bor) bt S Parks (Bot) 6-6 8-2: M Secret (Sp) bt N Febre (Bot) 6-4 7-8: S (Genove (Cz Rep) bt A Ot-52 POS 6-4 6-4: S Gozo (BS) bt S - Stdein (S-3 6-4); C Tompre-Valero (Sp) bt R Heate (Japen) 1-6 6-3. A Fuel (Fr) bt N Ven Lottum (Fr) 6-1 4-6 6-4. Second round: M Misleeva (Bul) bt Centone (Cz Rep) 6-2 6-1: N Touzat (Fr) bt R Randi (US) 6-1 6-4: Spieler (Ron) bt R Medical (Bot) 6-1 6-4: A G-Scoth (Fr) bt R Medical (US) 6-1 6-4: A G-Scoth (Fr) bt R Medical (US) 6-1 6-4: A G-Scoth (Fr) bt R Medical (US) 6-1 6-4: A G-Scoth (Fr) bt R Medical (US) 6-1 6-4: A G-Scoth (Fr) bt R Medical (US) 6-1 6-4: A G-Scoth (Fr) bt R Medical (US) 6-1 6-4: A G-Scoth (Fr) bt R Medical (US) 6-1 6-4: A G-Scoth (Fr) bt R Medical (US) 6-1 6-4: A G-Scoth (Fr) bt R Medical (US) 6-1 6-4: A G-Scoth (Fr) bt R Medical (US) 6-1 6-4: A G-Scoth (Fr) bt R Medical (US) 6-1 6-4: A G-Scoth (Fr) bt R Medical (US) 6-1 6-4: A G-Scoth (Fr) bt R Medical (US) 6-1 6-4: A G-Scoth (Fr) bt R Medical (US) 6-1 6-4: A G-Scoth (Fr) bt R Medical (US) 6-1 6-4: A G-Scoth (Fr) bt R Medical (US) 6-1 6-4: A G-Scoth (Fr) bt R Medical (US) 6-1 6-4: A G-Scoth (Fr) bt R Medical (US) 6-1 6-4: A G-Scoth (US) 6

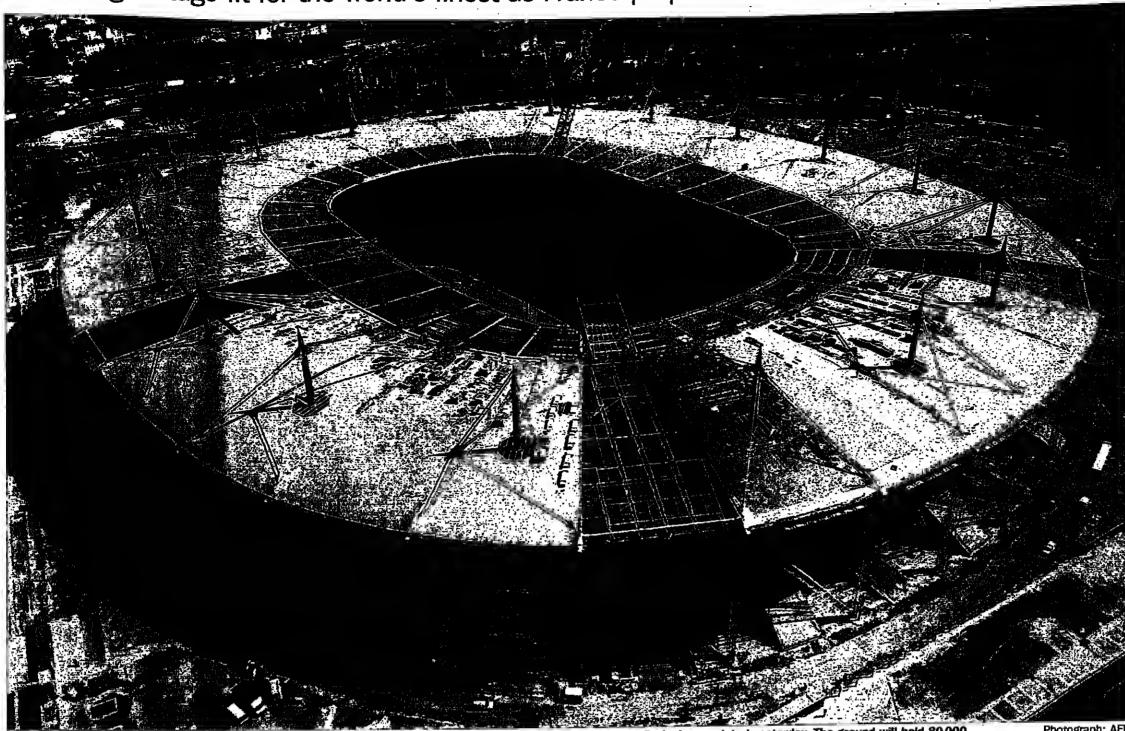
L Normand (Land 6-3 6-4, CARISBOD NOTERNATIONAL TOURSMANDERST (Belogica, NJ Singlos, Strat rounce (I) Gross Gert Lt A Menth (So) 6-2 6-3: K Alarm (Alar) for Descaris (Brown 6-3 6-1; F Medigan) (Brit Lt Corretter (So) 6-3 6-4; F Marthia (So) to Life Corret (So) 4-6 6-3 6-4; F Marthia (So) to Life Corret (So) 6-4 7-5; A Beresengal (So) to C Americ (Land 6-1 6-1; A Portae (So) to C Americ (So) 6-4 7-5; A Beresengal (So) to C Americ (So) 6-4; M Marthia (So) to C Americ (So) 6-6; M Marthia (In) to T Chempion (Fr) 4-6-6-1; Q Martou (So) to J Van Herch (Bell 6-6-1; Q Martou (S

STATE OF THE STATE Marke to stand A SOLLY SENSORES

Britain's No 1 overshadowed



Building a stage fit for the world's finest as France prepares for the real thing next summer



A year to the day before the start of the World Cup finals, the roof above the Stade de France at Saint-Denis, near Paris, is completed yesterday. The ground will hold 80,000

and fans' behaviour.

Forest in a similar position.

Babbel hits out at thrifty United

Football **ALAN NIXON**

Markus Babbel took a swipe at Manchester United last night after being offered just half of the £1.5m a year wages he is looking for. The Bayern Munich the terms on offer from United despite the clubs agreeing nn a £5m fee for the 24-year-old.

Instead Babbel flew off on holiday with a hlistering farewell remark about the way the talks had gone - much to the frustration of United's manager, Alex Ferguson

Babbel said: "I am already at a top cluh. I don't have to go hegging nn my knees to any-one." The German defender an international regular - wants £30,000 a week from United nn

a three-year contract that would take his total cost to them to almost £10m. However United's negotiator, solicitor and club director Maurice Watkins, is understood to have offered Babbel £14,000 a week and a four-year deal.

Watkins stayed on in Munich after the initial talks broke down hut the signs are not good far United. Although the Old Trafford club are likely to increase their offer when Babbel comes back from his holiday, there is a huge gap in their figures. United also want Babbel to commit himself for the peak years of his career, but he has his eyes set on a further move at 27, when he could go

Rangers have spent £3m nn a player who recently said that does not like football. Sergin

Porrini, the Juventus central defender who signed a four-year contract yesterday, gave an in-terview earlier this year in which he said that when his contract in Turin ended in 2001 he would give up the game. "It is a world I don't like," he said. "It is a world where one doesn't say

what one thinks." Rangers, who signed Porrini despite competition from Man-chester United and Parma, are still trying tn keep Brian Laudrup. The Ibrox manager, Walter Smith, telephoned the 28-year-old striker at the Denmark training camp on Satur-day before their World Cup qualifier against Bosnia, though Laudrup later confirmed his desire to leave.

With Ajax and Manchester United heading the queue to secure his services, Smith adjourned a family holiday in France to team up with Murray at his Jersey summer home yesterday, where they were due to meet Laudrup and his ageot.

The former manager of Southampton, Graeme Souness, could become coach of the Italian Serie B duh Torino on Sunday, after a week of talking with the club. "We are ready. We have to finalise the details of the contract and we hope in sign next Sunday," a Torinn spokesman said.

Sunderland are facing a £600,000 bill for pulling out of the signing of Israeli striker, Ronen Harazi. The 27-year-old international took the club to Fifa, world football's governing body, which backed his claim that he signed a binding agreement, and he is now lnoking for compensation from Sunderland nn a

four-year contract that was worth £3,000 per-week. Sunderland, who are to ap-

peal, called off the signing when they discovered that Harazi was carrying an old injury and had a pin in his foot from a childhood accident.

signed a contract after impressing Sunderland's manager, Peter Reid, in training, and Fifa does not recognise the English system of making transfers subject to medicals

Harazi is now playing again and helped his club, Beitar Jerusalem, become champions while Sunderland were dropping out of the Premiership. Sunderland may also face separate actinn from the club, who missed nut on a £500,000 transfer fee when the deal collapsed. Ian Crook is set to leave Nor-

wich City for a contract worth are concerned Middlesbrough around £600,000 a year with the will be one of the 72 clubs in the roshima. The midfielder has Nationwide Football League." been unsettled at Norwich for some time, and signed for lpside Stadium said: "The signs are that they are gearing themswich last summer hefore changing his mind and returnselves up for the First Division. However, Harazi had already ing to Carrow Road. Hiroshima 1998-99 Uefa Cup place for reportedly wanted Aston Villa's English clul

veteran Andy Townsend, but he was too expensive for them. The Football League nfficially release its fixture list for the 1997-98 season on Monday, and is in agreement with the Premier League that Middles-hrough's relegation from the Premiership stands – despite the continuing threat from the Teesside club of legal action after having three points deduct-

ed for failing tn turn up at Blackburn last season. Chris Hull, a Football League

Call for national anthem at Tests

Cricket

The surge of patriotic pris The surge of patriotic prifes swelling the nation's collective breast in the wake of England's first Test defeat of Australiais driving cricket towards adopting a sporting ritual its traditions have curiously neglected—the

national anthem.
Unlike football and rugby, in which no international contest gets under way until the players have joined in an uplifting appeal for the continuing pros perity of the monarch, cricket is a game without fanfares Even the grandest occasion at Lord's is heralded by nothing more remarkable than the emergence from the pavilion c

Flushed with their early-s son triumphs, however, England's cricketers now want to make a proper entrance, in-cluding the chance to puff out their chests and sing "God Save The Queen".

"It happens with every other sport and at the Olympics," Alec Stewart, a senior England player, said. "I'm very patriotic and would be a proud moment."

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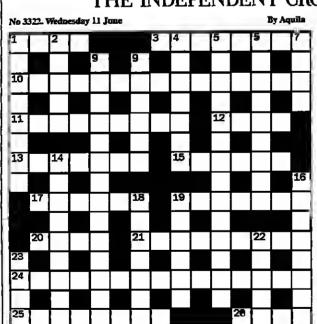
Charles Arthur

The problem perplexing the game's administrators, however, is not whether it should happen but when. "At foothall and rugby, spectators tend to be in their seats some time before the game," the ECB spokesman, Richard Little, said. "But 1 saw South Africa play Australia in Port Elizabeth recently and when they played the anthem there was hardly anyone in the ground. But if you have every-nne on the field just before the beginning you risk upsetting the players' preparations, particu-larly the two who are about to

Anthems were played at the last World Cup and now precede Test matches in the Caribbean but there is no las-tory of the practice in English



THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



ACROSS Tidy resort (4)

- Pay out for bus-rides all over the place (8) 10 Athletics score a riot when all obstacles are removed? (3,5,2.5)
- 11 General opinion of verbal assault (9) 12 Novel gong in two-note 1
- 13 Early union leaders insincere, but making pleasing sound in speech (7)
- 15 Singular colours of sandpipers (6) 17 Mistake after opening- 5
- time brings panic (6)
 19 European scourge, this smelly creature! (7) 20 Game explorer (4)
- 21 Girl has an accident place (7-2) 24 Defensive at the wicket
- not easily ruffled (6-9) 25 Hand over change (8) 26 Many getting knocked down? (4)
 DOWN
- Peers embracing sol-diers who are celebrities (8) Cardinal in firm belief (5) Chill-factor here in
- France over headland Cabriolet is got out (the buggy sort) (14) Space above top storey said to be creaky in

parts (9)

- Pound a book? (4) Wait a moment! Do not let go of the string!
 - Distress-signal put out whenever youth-leader has to become inflexible (6)
 - Northern Territory I found in map collection as continent at
 - one time (8) 18 Jungle Book? (7) 19 Crack up in a spire to be repaired (6)

14 Wonders of females only in untidy heap (9)

22 State in which I had a house made shorter (5)

Slice on Sunday - the

last we see of deer? (4)

Diprose called up to relieve the pressure

Rugby Union

CHRIS HEWETT reports from Johannesburg

The frustrations of interna-

tional air travel may just have saved Tony Diprose from the most alarming experience of his hrief top-flight career. The 24-year-old Saracens captain was called up by the Lions yester-day as replacement for the injured Scott Quinnell, but could nnt be placed nn a sufficiently early flight tn get him here in time in watch tonight's coofrontation with Gauteng. For the sake of the new England No 8's nerves, that was probably no bad thing. Diprose will link up with the

squad in Durban tomorrow, by which time the murists will know just how strong they are by comparison with the best of the South African provincial giants. As Gauteng, formerly known as Transvaal, can afford tn employ three full Springboks as mere reserves, the Lions face an unimaginably difficult task uoder the floodlights at Ellis Park.

Gauteng will be captained by Kohus Wiese and spearheaded from midfield by Hennic le Roux, the two World Cup-winning heroes controversially ditched from the national squad by Carel du Plessis last week. Pieter Hendriks, Jnhan Roux and Chris Rossouw, three more celebrated graduates of the

school of '95, also turn nut winner at the back of the line along with the Argentinian nut and good in defence," Fran Roberto Grau, who only last Saturday was giving the England front row a seeing-tn in Buenos Aires. It is a murderous line-up.

They have players with a point in prove and this game provides them with the ideal npportunity," said Tim Rodher, whn captains the Linns for the secnnd successive midweek match. "By the same yardstick, we too have points to prove. This is a selection game for the first Test and mentally we are right up for the occasion. We are prepared for a very physical match and it will be a matter of doing justice to the red shirt. There will come a time tunight when we will need in be a team,

A second straight defeat would flatten morale precisely when the tourists most need to feel good about themselves. Not only have they suffered their first reverse, lost three players to in-jury and nne, Scott Gibbs, to suspension, but with Gauteng. Natal, the Emerging Springboks, Free State and two Tests on the agenda, there is not a single game that they can be re-

motely confident of winning. Quite when Diprose, who has given up a holiday in St Lucia with his girlfriend, can expect his first run in a Lions jersey remains unclear, but the selectors believe he will fit in when the time comes. "Tony is an extremely good ball-player, a ballhas the qualities required for the kind of rugby we are trying to play and tn compete with the

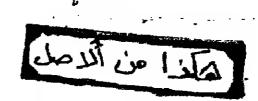
type of opponents we are facing." If the Lions have their way, they will oever again face opponents like Marius Bosman and Elandre van der Bergh. The two Mpumalanga locks who caused such mayhem in Witbank were both given wrist-slapping fines on Mnnday night and althnugh Cotton was far from impres he was of a mind yesterday to let sleeping dogs lie

It is now for other people to decide whether the fines do justice tn the events that put Doddie Weir out of the tour," Cotton said, "but just to put it in context, I don't suppose they would even match Doddie's consultancy fees, let alone the surgery he requires on his knee."

he requires on his knee."

GAUTENG: D du Tot: J Gillingham, J van der Wait, H La Roux, P Hendhies; L van Rensburg, J Roux, R Grau, C Rossouw, K van Greuning, K Wiese (caph), R Thomp, A Voss, P Krause, W Broshihan, B seen, W Lessen; U Moodanald, Betrisski SBLES: N Beel (Northampten and England). A Bestley (Newcastle and England), A Bestley (Lesseler and England), T Smith (Welsonians and Scotland), B Welliams (Richmond) and Wiles), P Walliams (Richmond), A Meeting (Est), and England), I Devideon (London Mah and Ivetand), R Welson (Northampton and England), I Newton (Welsonians and Scotland), B Welson (Northampton and England), T Smith (Welsonians and Scotland), R Welson (Northampton and England), Capo), N Back (Lelosser and England), capo), N Back (Lelosser and England) nians and Scotland), T Rodber (and England, capt). N Back (Leic

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